

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

#148 US \$2.19



SEGA®

SONIC™

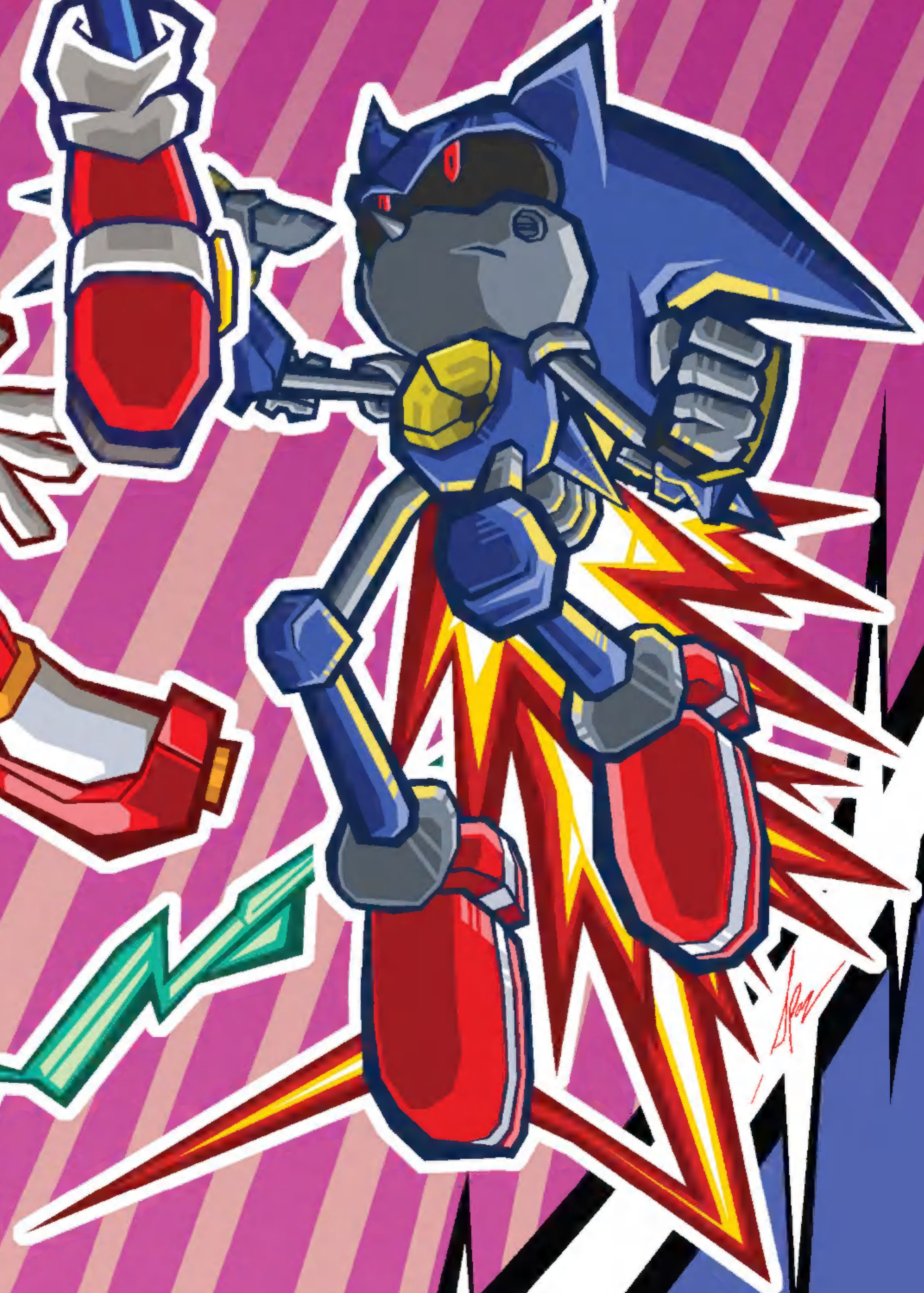


THE HEDGEHOG



**THE GOOD
THE BAD AND
THE UNKNOWN
PART 3 OF 4**

BATTLE!



NOW, THE
ROYAL
THRONE
ROOM.

YOUR
HIGHNESS!
PRINCESS
SALLY!

WHAT IS IT,
DYLAN?

HAVE
YOU RECEIVED
ANY WORD
FROM ROTOR
OR THE
OTHERS?

THAT'S
JUST
IT--

--WE
LOST ALL
CONNECTION
ALMOST
AN HOUR
AGO!

THE LAST
WORDS WE
RECORDED
BEFORE LOSING
TRANSMISSION
WERE SONIC
SAYING--

"NEVER
TELL
ME THE
ODDS!"

DYLAN, I NEED
YOU TO BRING
SONIC'S FATHER,
JULES, TO THE
ROYAL COURT
IMMEDIATELY!

ANY-
THING
ELSE,
PRINCESS
SALLY?

"I GUESS
PRAYING
WOULDN'T
HURT
EITHER!?!"

WHAT A
PICKLE,
TOMMY!

SONIC'S IN
TROUBLE--

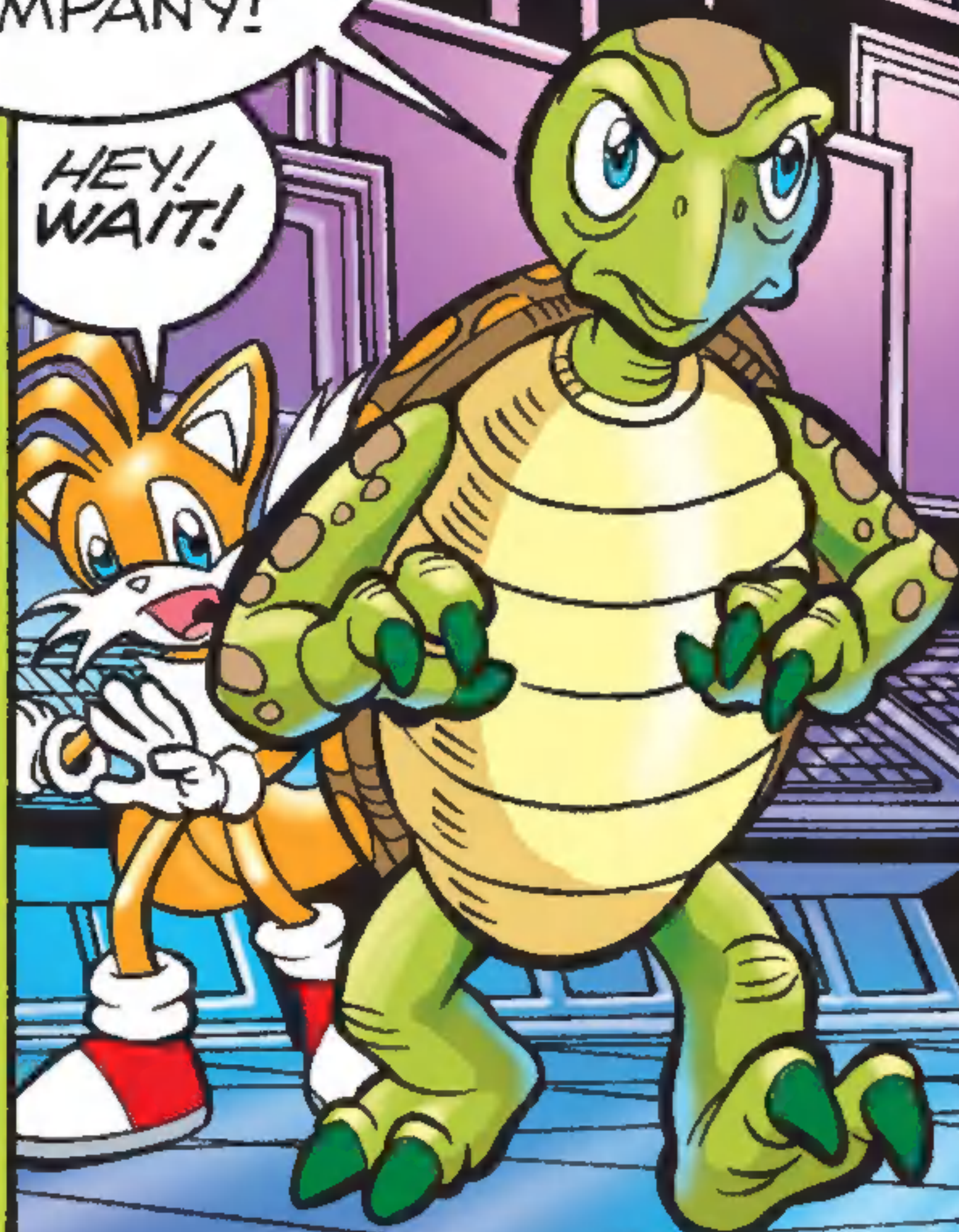
--BUT SO
ARE ROTOR,
FIONA, AND
BUNNIE--

--AND IT'S HARD TO
SAY WHO'S WORSE
OFF!

YOU
STAY HERE
KEEPING
EVERYTHING
TOGETHER,
MILES--

--WHILE I GO SEE WHAT I CAN DO FOR ROTOR AND COMPANY!

HEY!
WAIT!



AW,
RATS!



EVEN WITH THE **NEWCOMERS**, I'M **STILL** TREATED LIKE A **JUNIOR** MEMBER OF THE GROUP!

...SIGH...

WHILE HE DOES THAT, I GUESS I BETTER FIND OUT WHAT'S UP WITH...

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UNKNOWN Part 3: GENESIS



HAVING EXPERIENCED THE FLOOR COLLAPSE FROM UNDERNEATH HIM LAST ISSUE, SONIC NOW FINDS HIMSELF ON A SURFACE SEVERAL METERS DOWN, COLLECTING HIS BREATH...

OW! MY BACK!

IF NOT FOR MY SPIN MOVES TO BREAK MY FALL, I'D REALLY BE IN A WORLD OF HURT!

SAY! WHERE'S SHADOW AND THE OTHER PLAY-MATES?

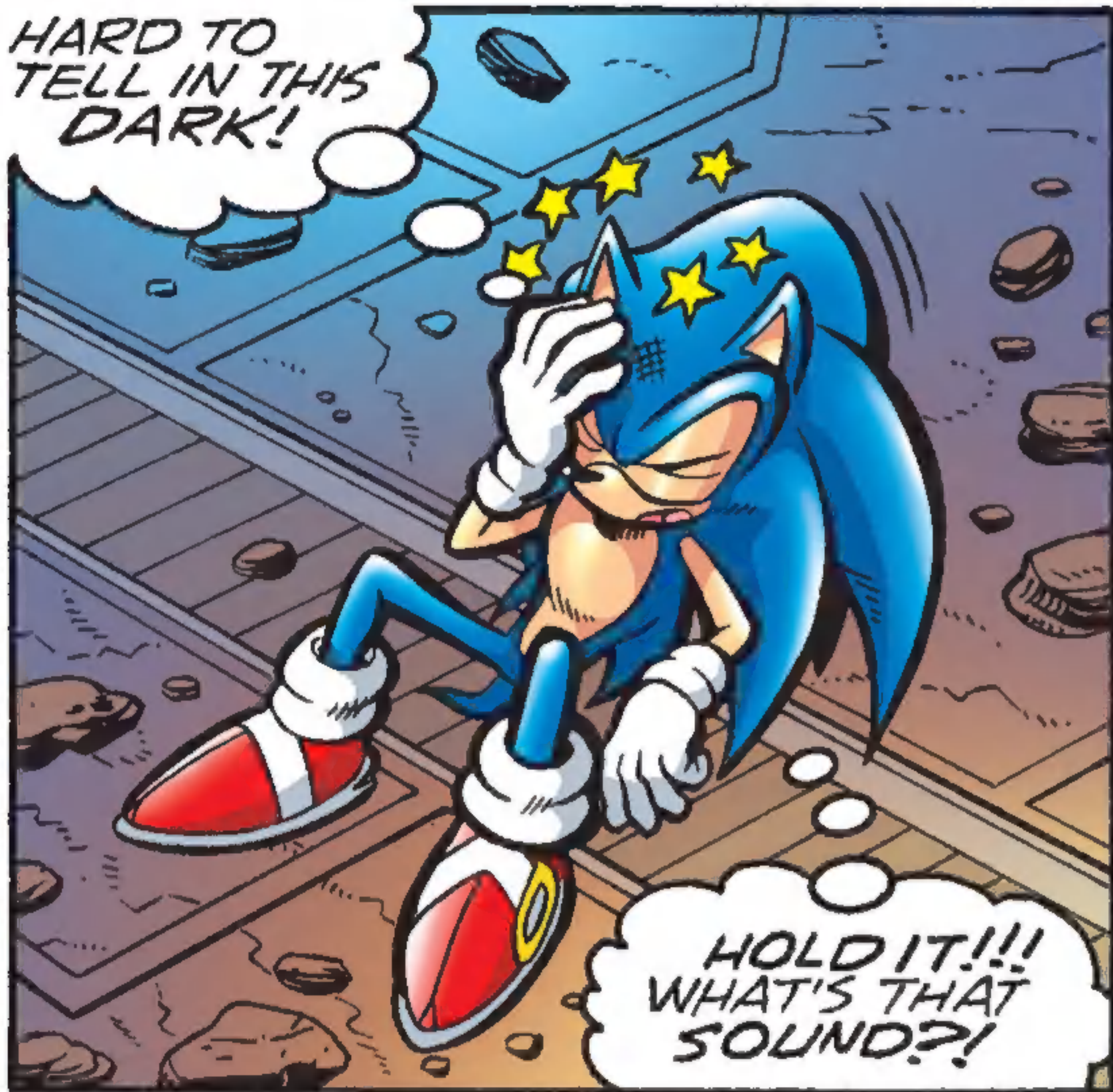
RRUMMB



SPECIAL THANKS TO
ROBERT LEFFLER
AND DYNA LOPEZ
AT SEGA LICENSING

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Victor Gorelick
Editor-in-Chief:
Richard Goldwater

HARD TO
TELL IN THIS
DARK!

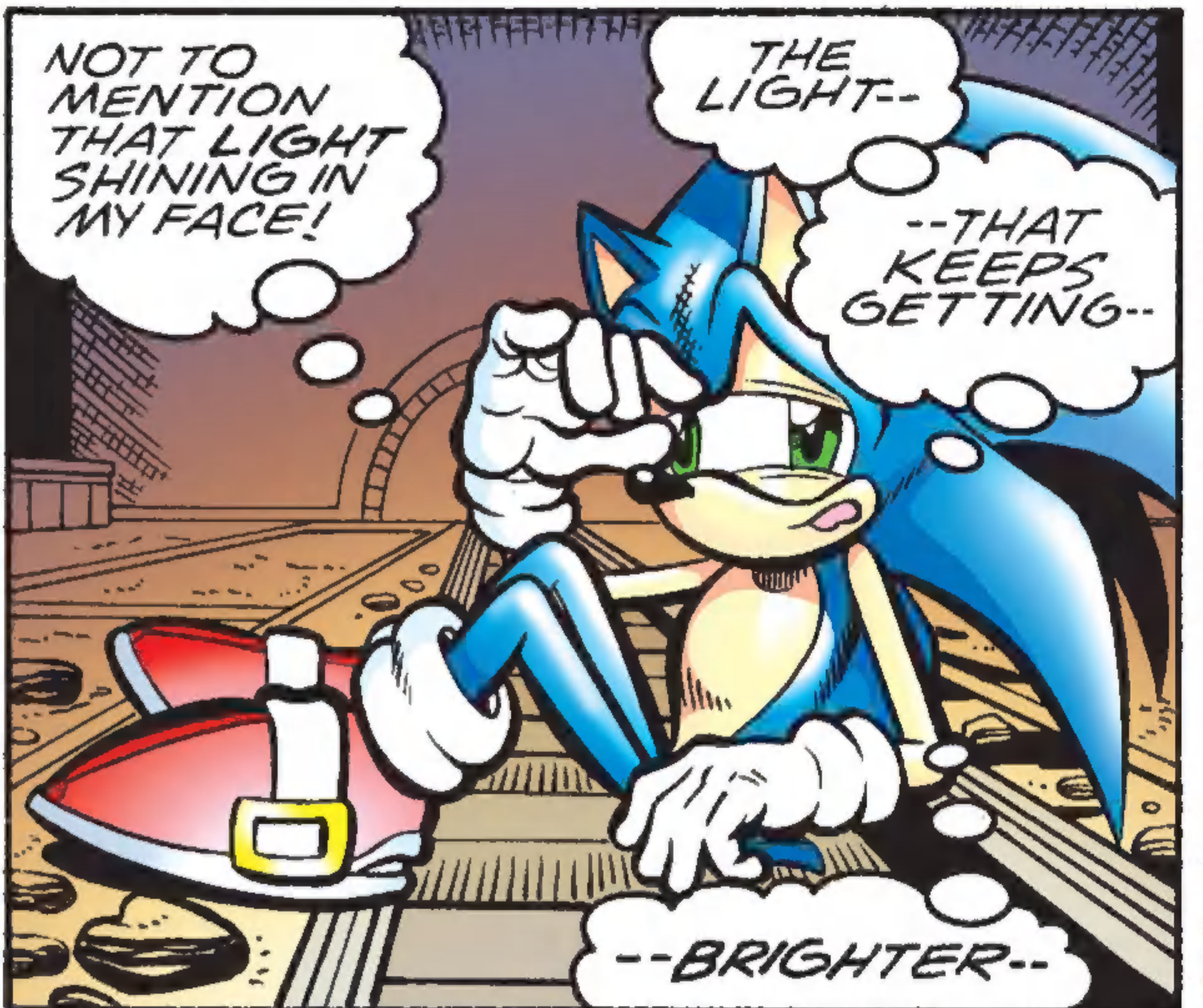


HOLD IT!!!
WHAT'S THAT
SOUND?!

NOT TO
MENTION
THAT LIGHT
SHINING IN
MY FACE!

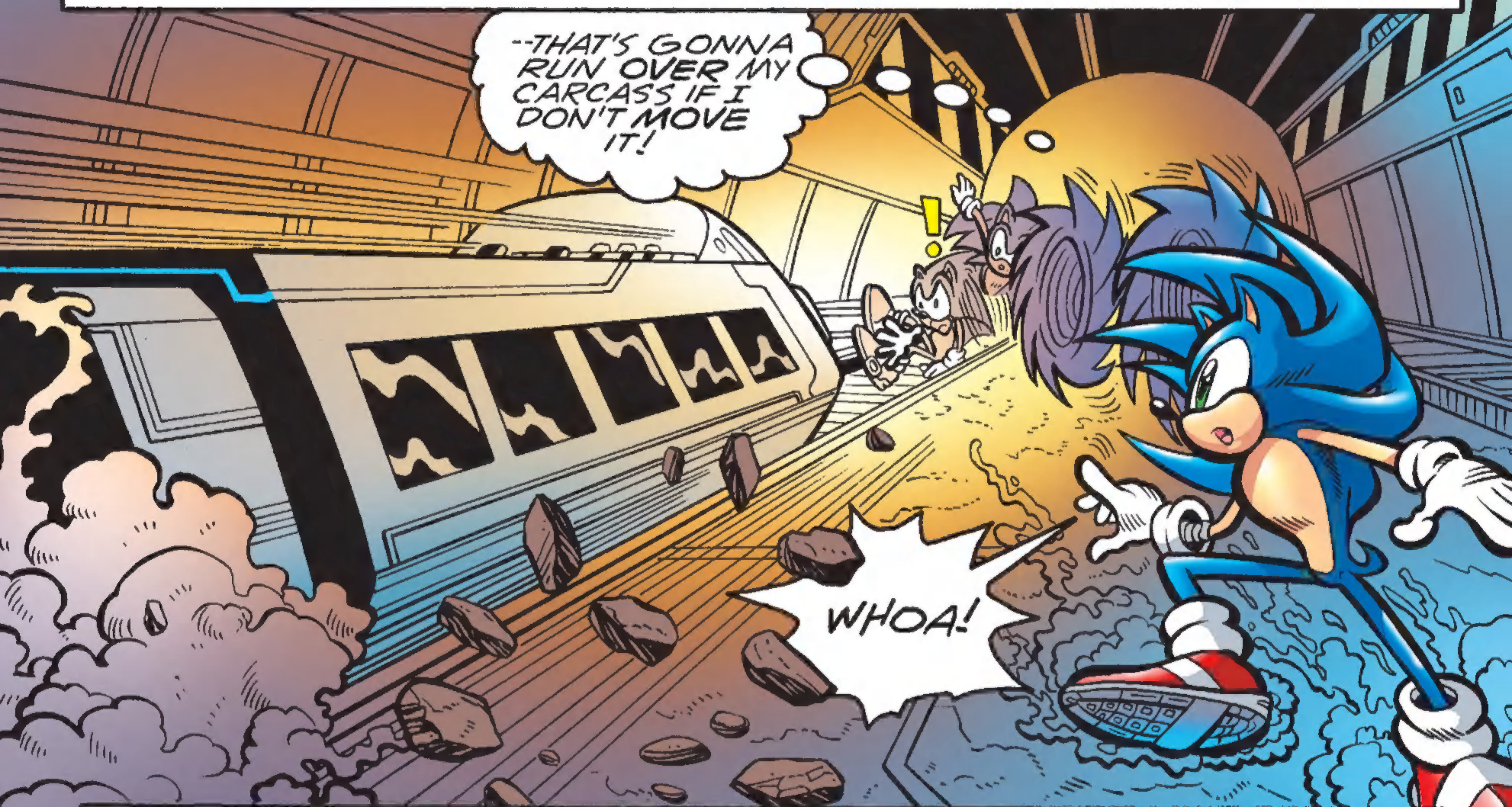
THE
LIGHT--

--THAT
KEEPS
GETTING--



--BRIGHTER--

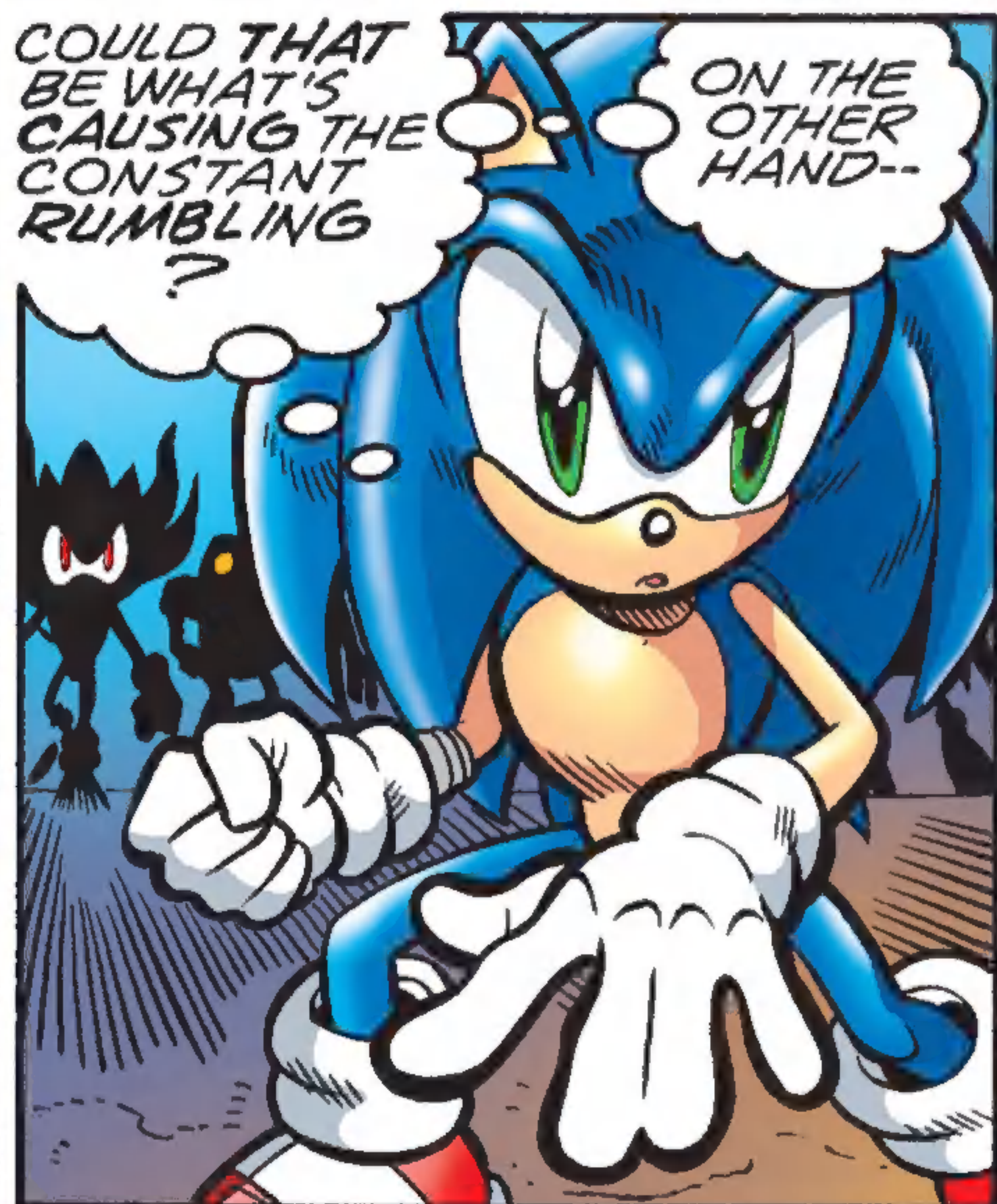
--THAT'S GONNA
RUN OVER MY
CARCASS IF I
DON'T MOVE
IT!



WHOA!

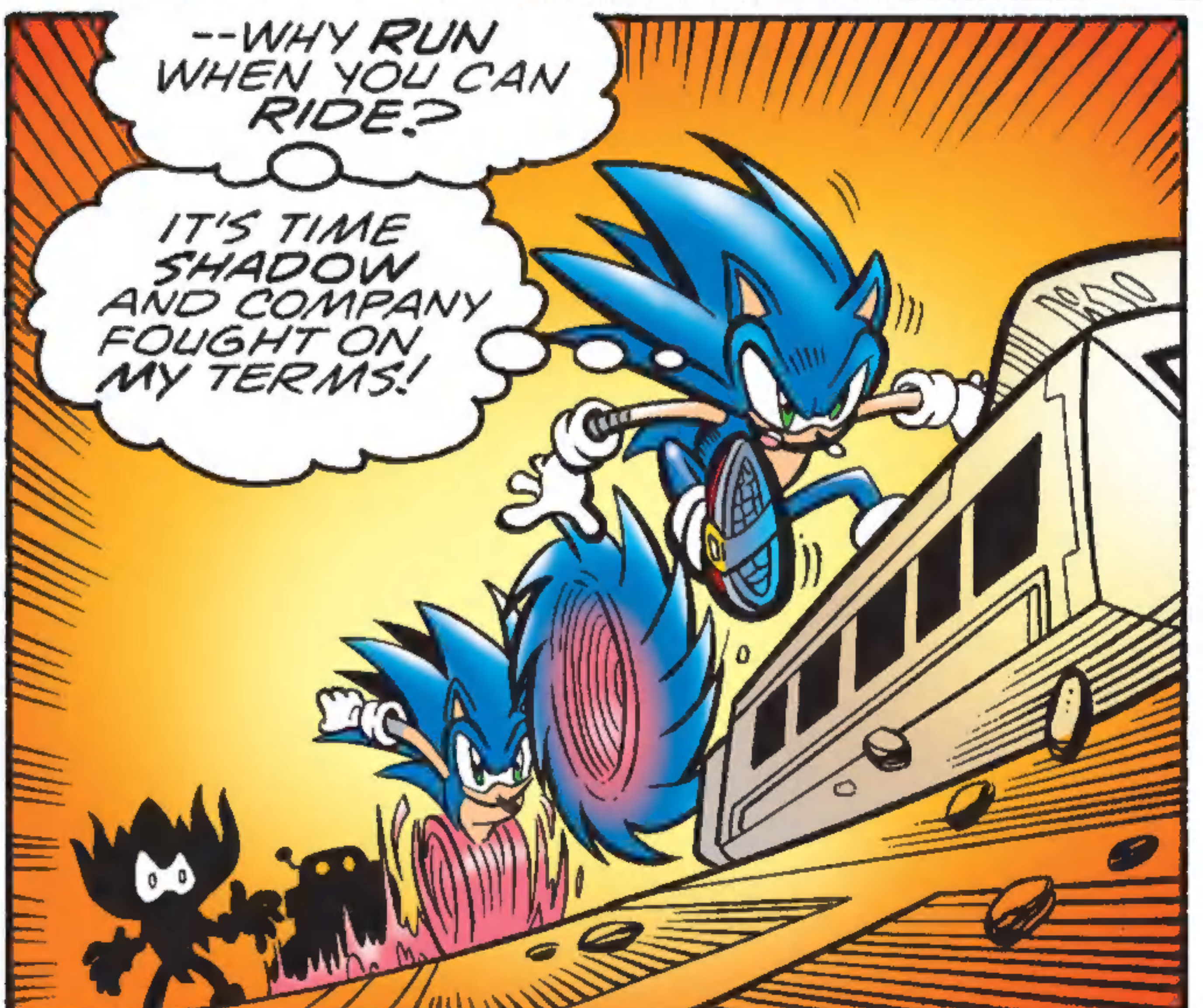
COULD THAT
BE WHAT'S
CAUSING THE
CONSTANT
RUMBLING
?

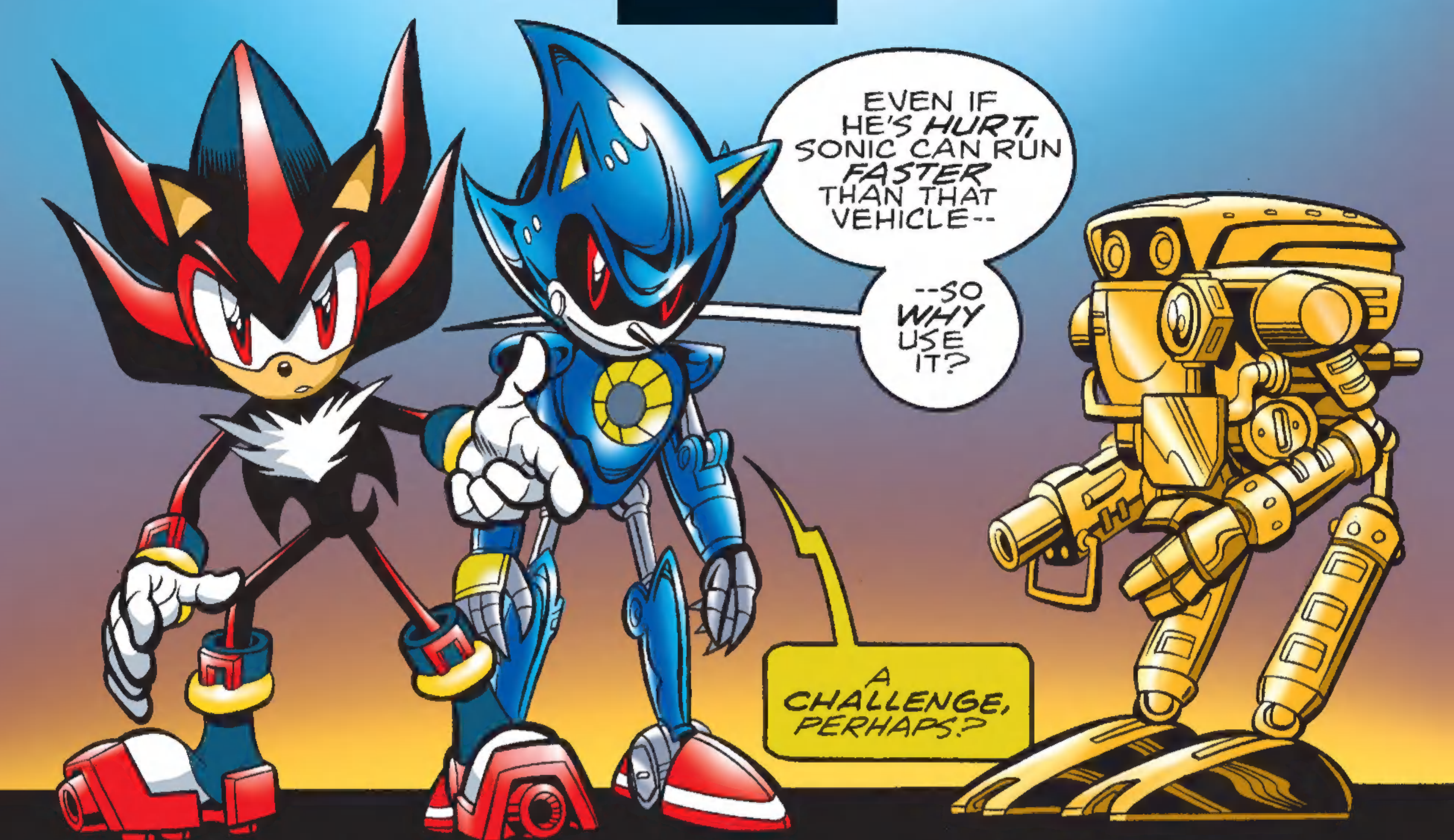
ON THE
OTHER
HAND--



--WHY RUN
WHEN YOU CAN
RIDE?--

IT'S TIME
SHADOW
AND COMPANY
FOUGHT ON
MY TERMS!

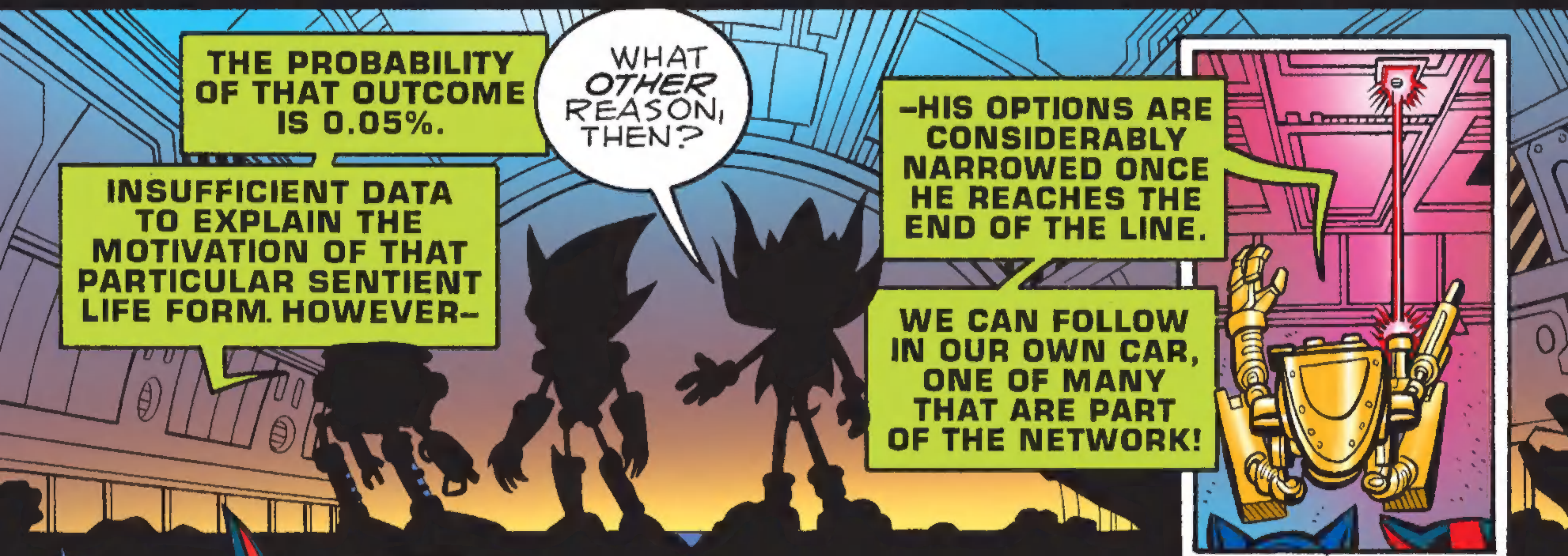




EVEN IF HE'S *HURT*, SONIC CAN RUN *FASTER* THAN THAT VEHICLE--

--SO WHY USE IT?

A CHALLENGE, PERHAPS?



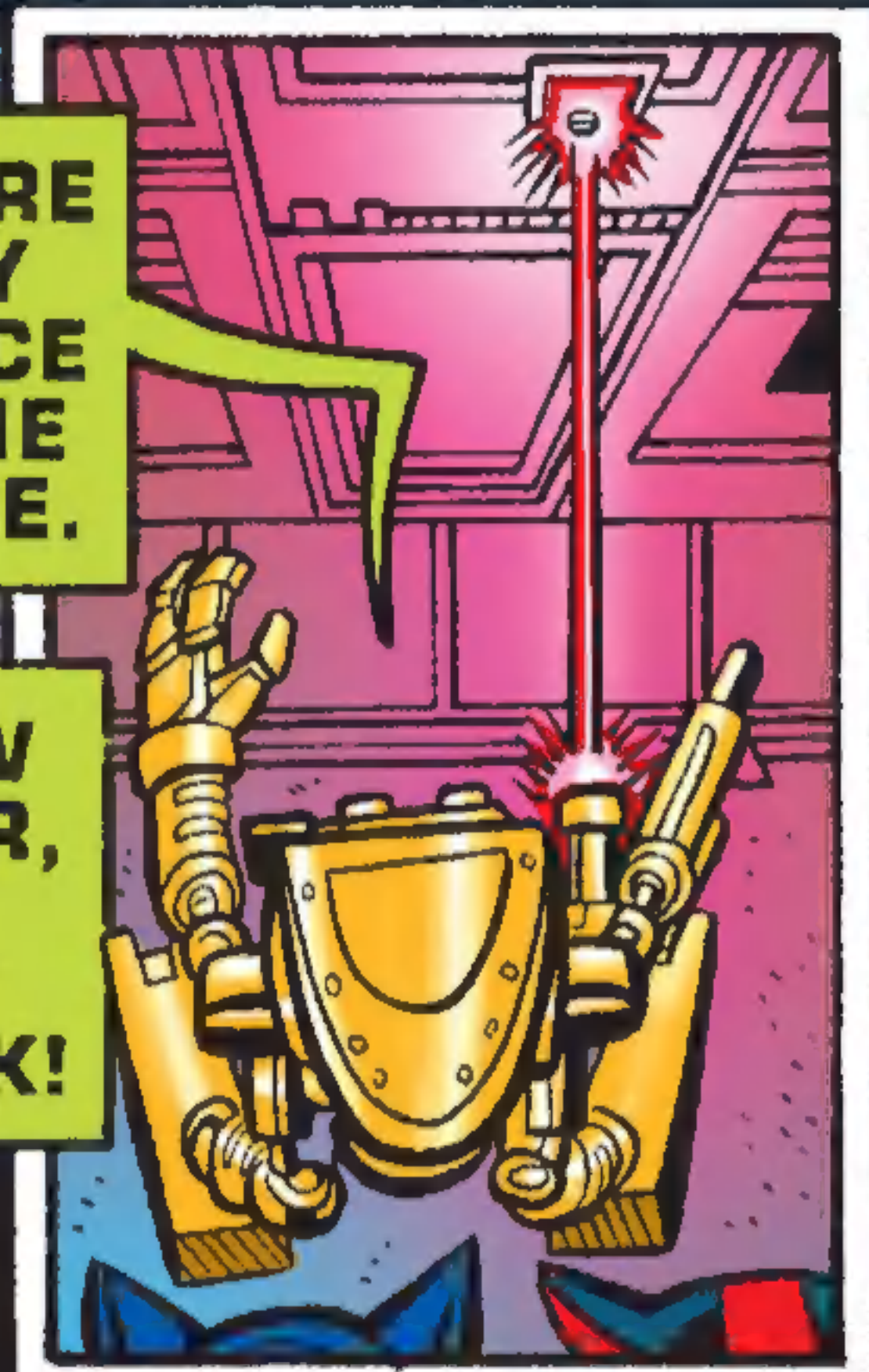
THE PROBABILITY OF THAT OUTCOME IS 0.05%.

WHAT *OTHER* REASON, THEN?

INSUFFICIENT DATA TO EXPLAIN THE MOTIVATION OF THAT PARTICULAR SENTIENT LIFE FORM. HOWEVER--

--HIS OPTIONS ARE CONSIDERABLY NARROWED ONCE HE REACHES THE END OF THE LINE.

WE CAN FOLLOW IN OUR OWN CAR, ONE OF MANY THAT ARE PART OF THE NETWORK!



NO, THANK YOU, ISAAC!

I WILL GET MY ANSWERS THROUGH MORE *DIRECT* MEANS.

MY SENSORS INDICATE THAT YOU CAN PURSUE MORE EFFICIENTLY VIA YOUR SOLE THRUSTERS.

MY *FIRST* PRIORITY IS GATHERING DATA FOR MY CREATOR, DR. ROBOTNIK.

MY DATA BANKS SHOW THAT ROBOTNIK IS AN ANAGRAM OF KINTOBOR.

ANY RELATION?



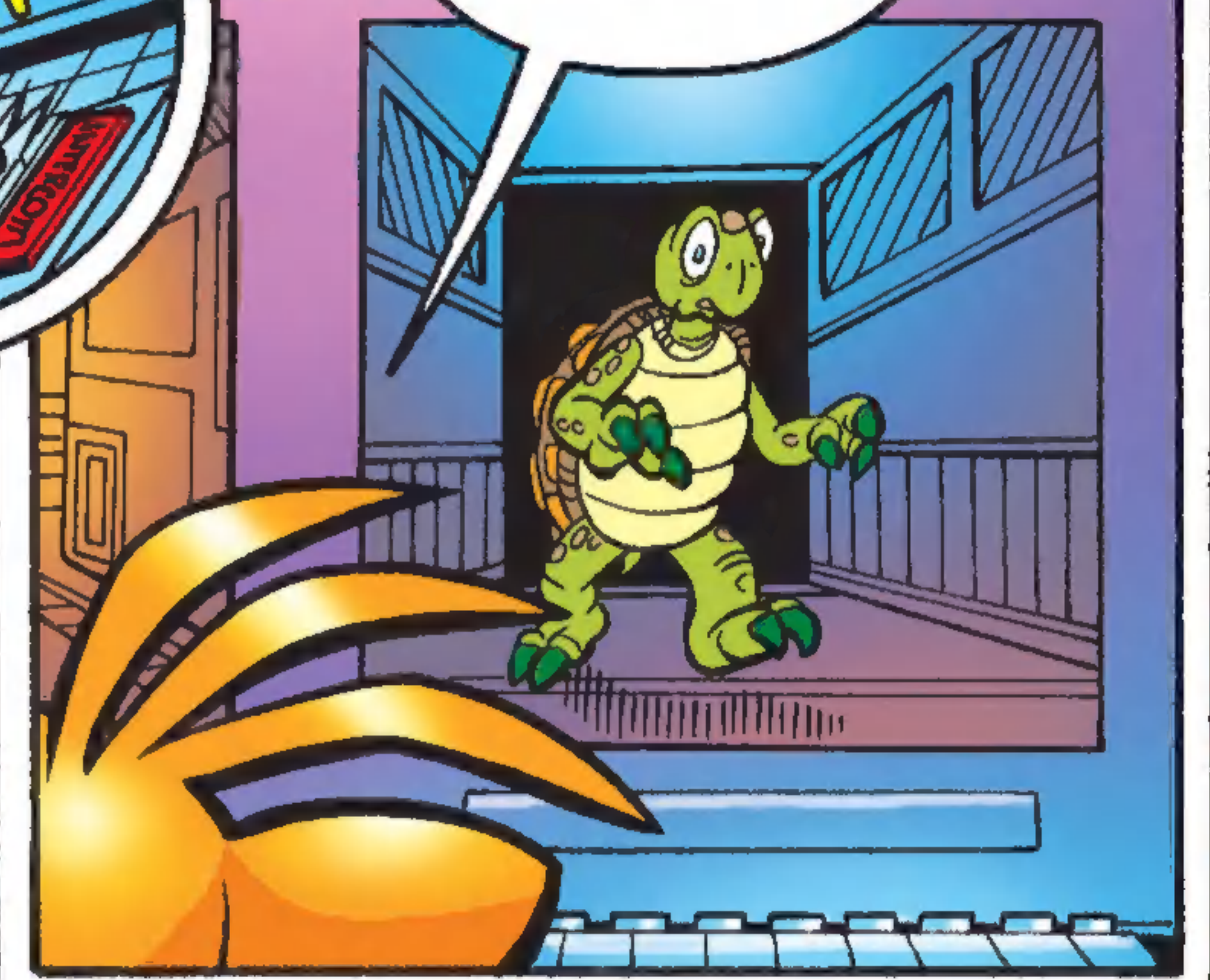
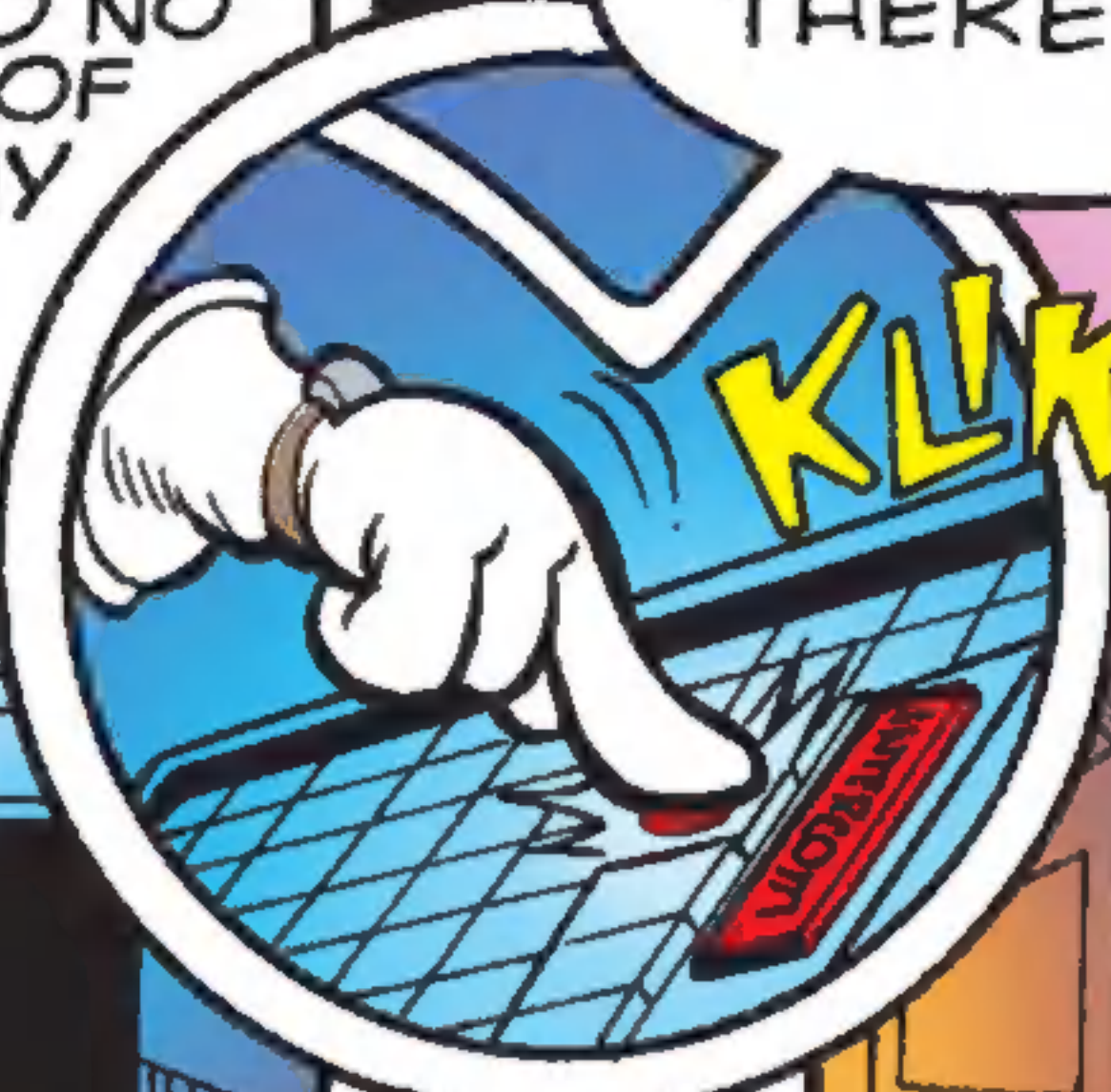
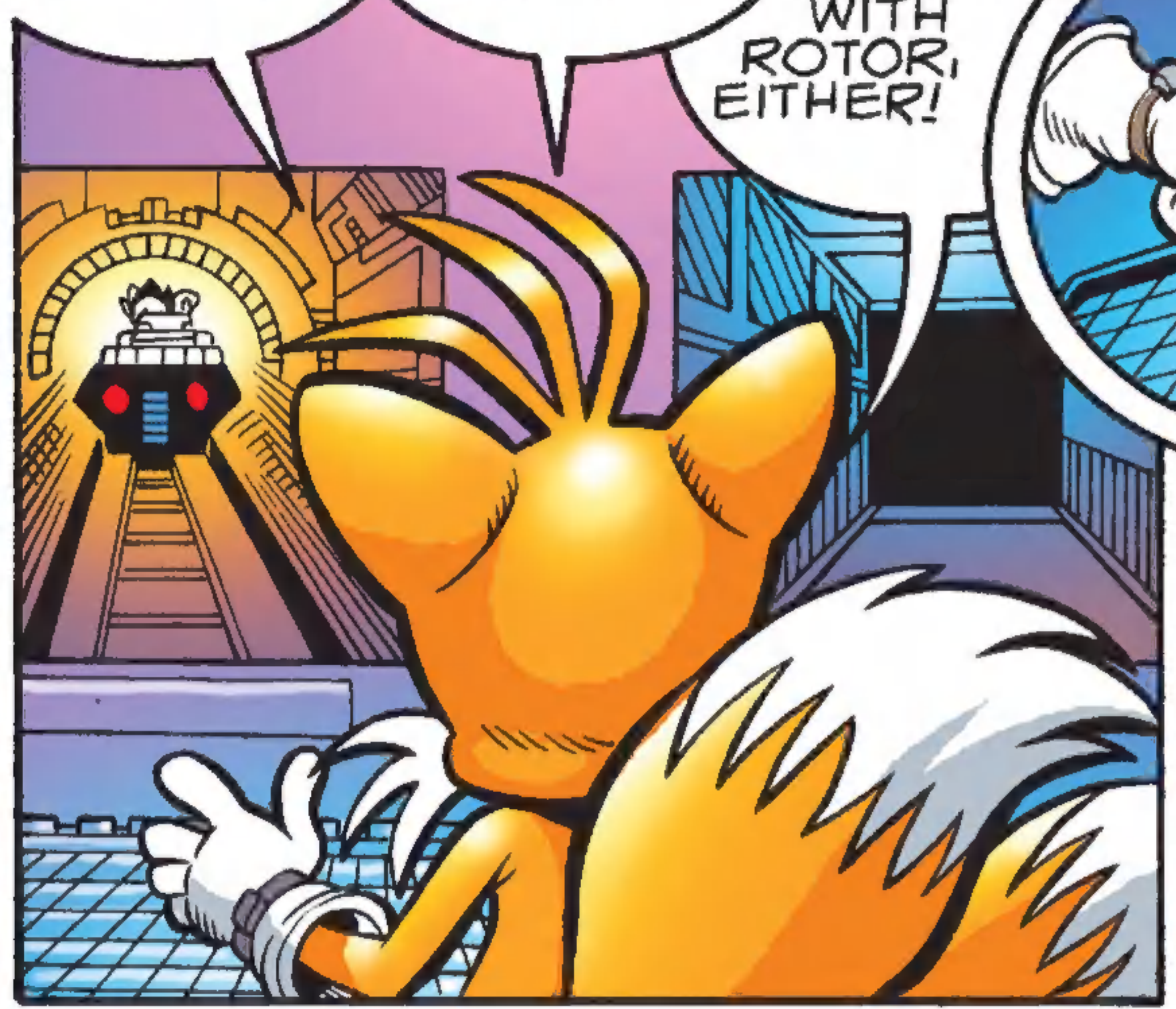
WE'VE GOT
ANOTHER
CAMERA
ONLINE--

--BUT STILL
NO SIGN OF
SONIC--

--AND NO
SIGN OF
TOMMY
WITH
ROTOR,
EITHER!

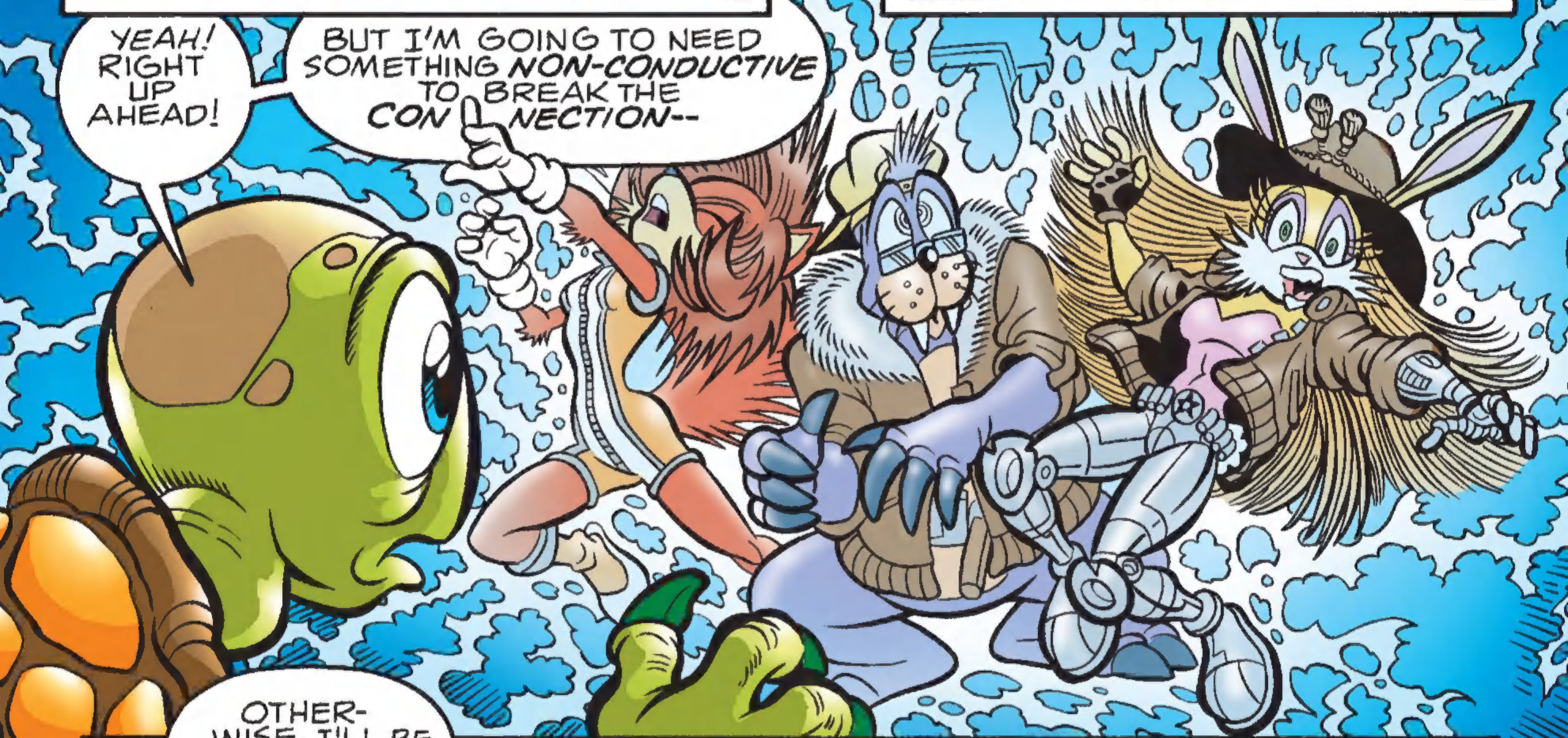
WAIT A MINUTE!
THERE HE IS!

TAILS TO
TOMMY. ANY
SIGN OF
ROTOR AND
CREW?
OVER!



YEAH!
RIGHT
UP
AHEAD!

BUT I'M GOING TO NEED
SOMETHING NON-CONDUCTIVE
TO BREAK THE
CONNECTION--



OTHER-
WISE, I'LL BE
JOINING
THE CLUB!

MAYBE
I CAN FIND
WHAT I NEED
IN HERE!

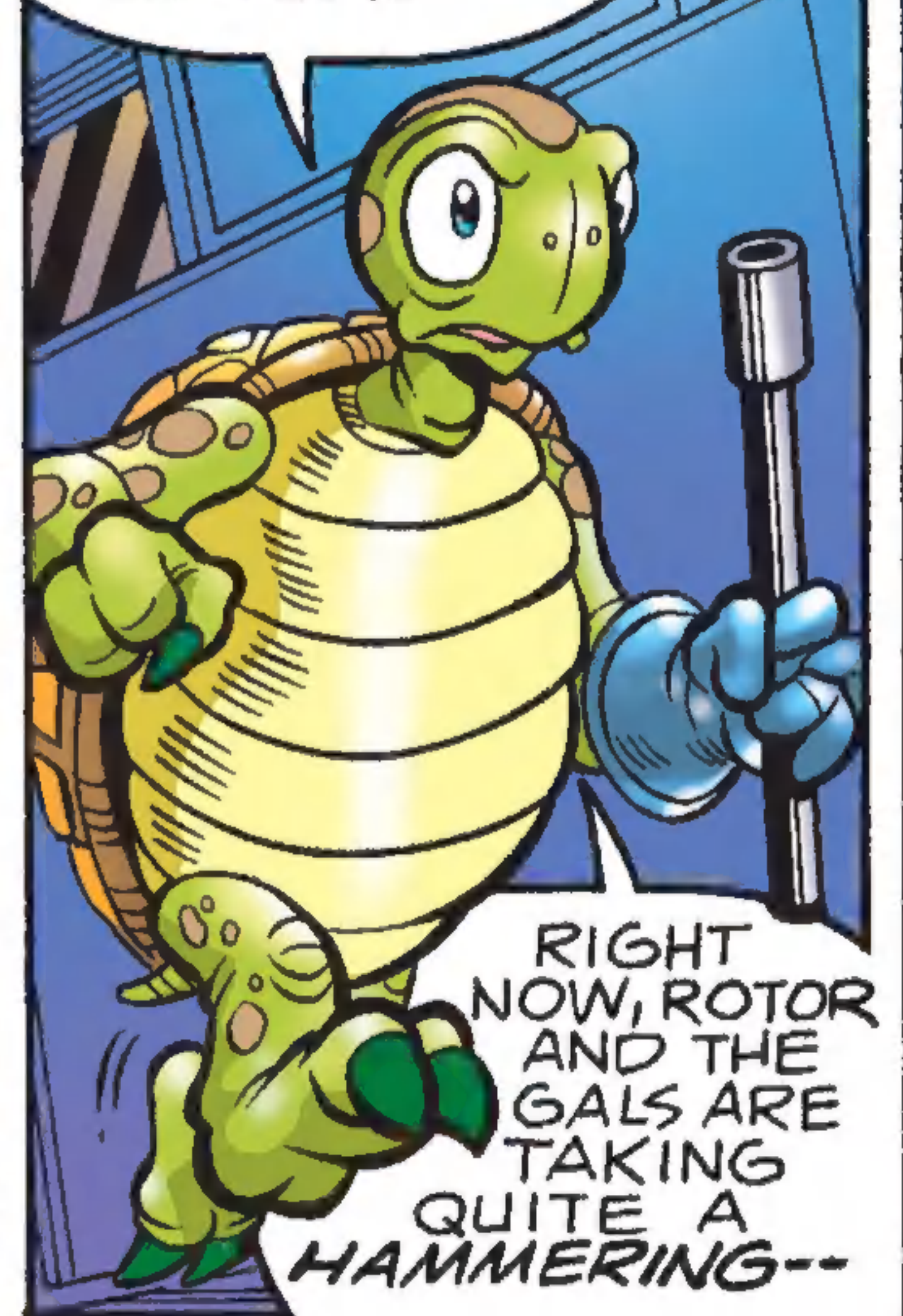


THIS LEATHER
GLOVE WILL DO
NICELY!

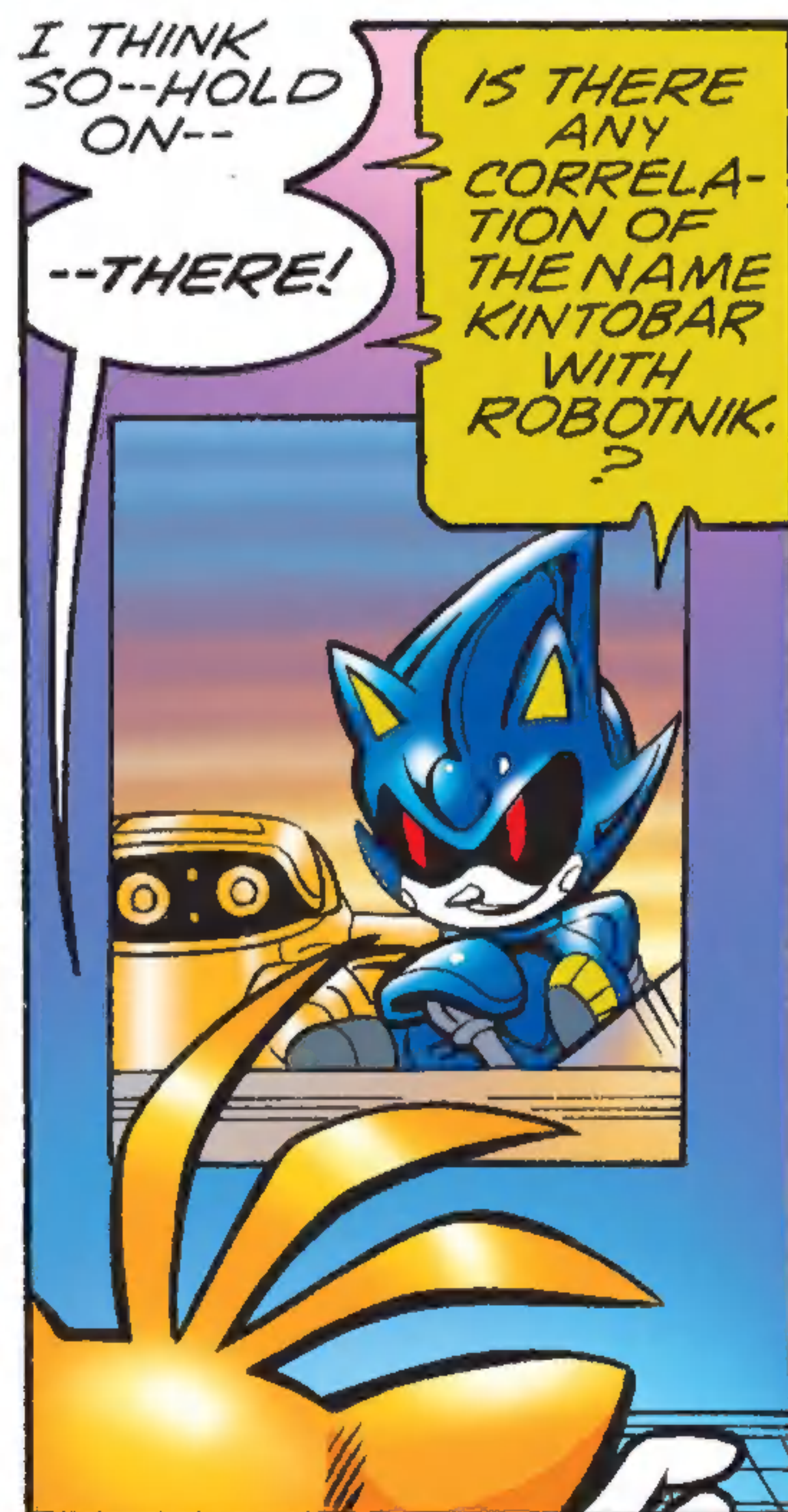
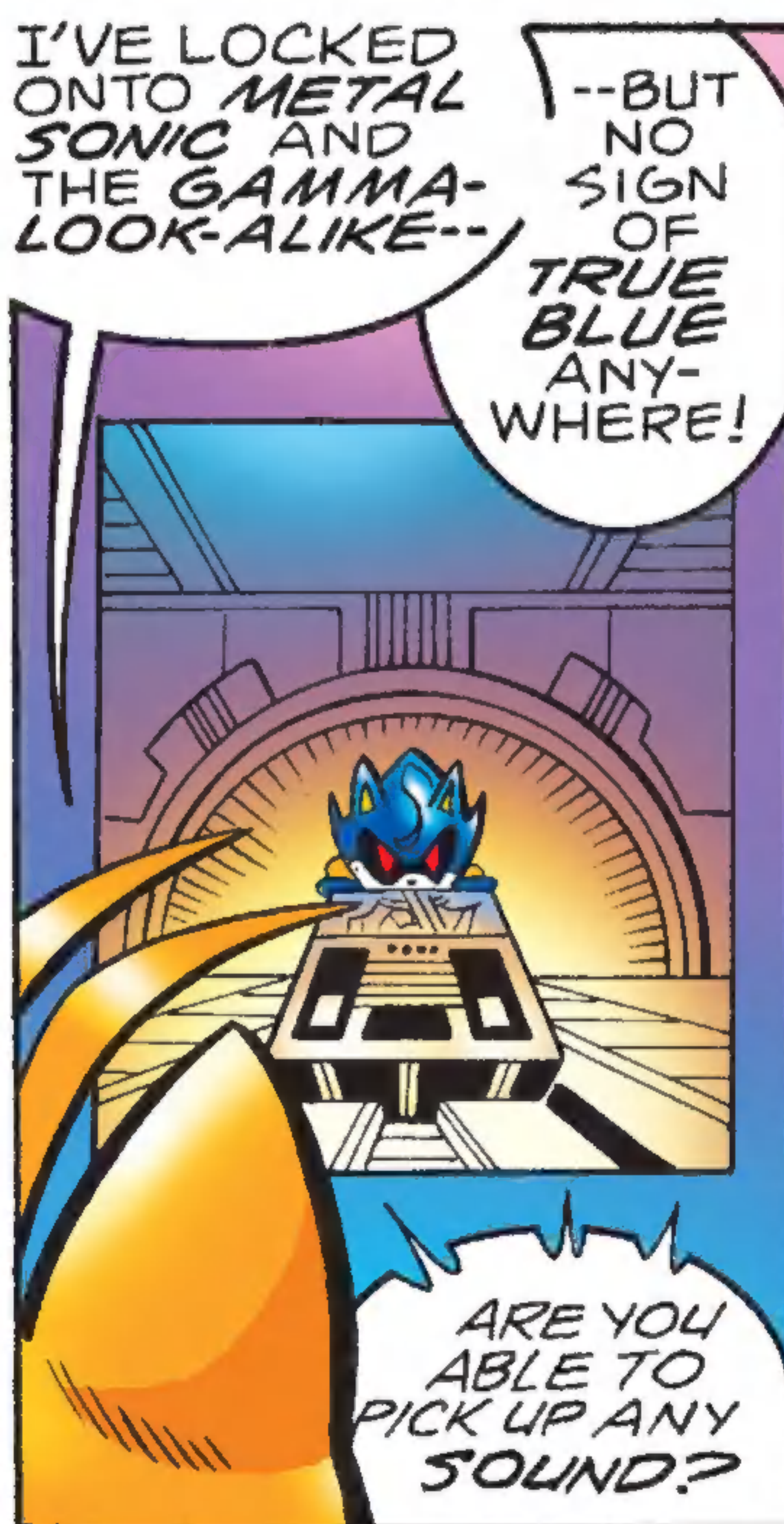
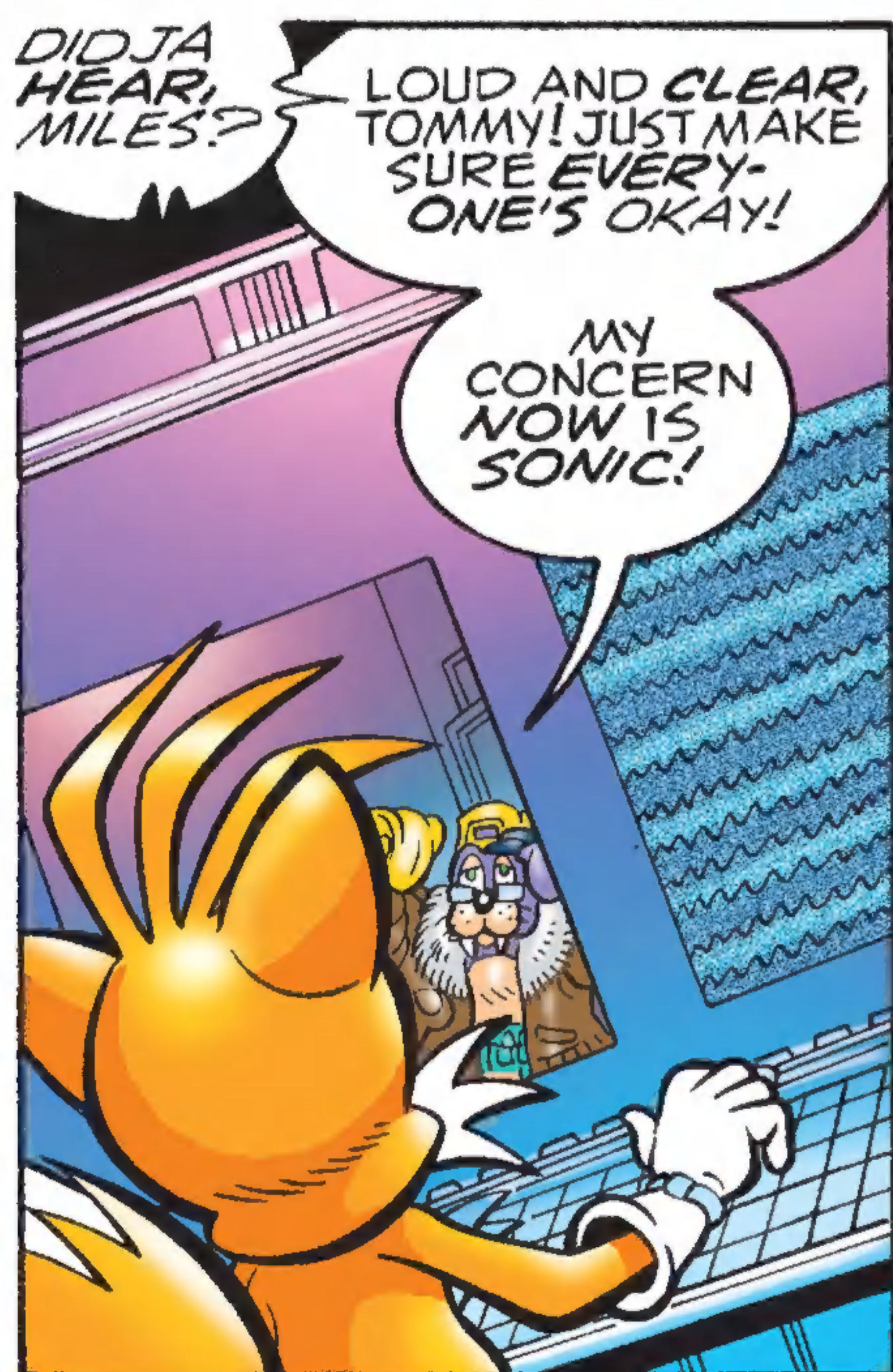
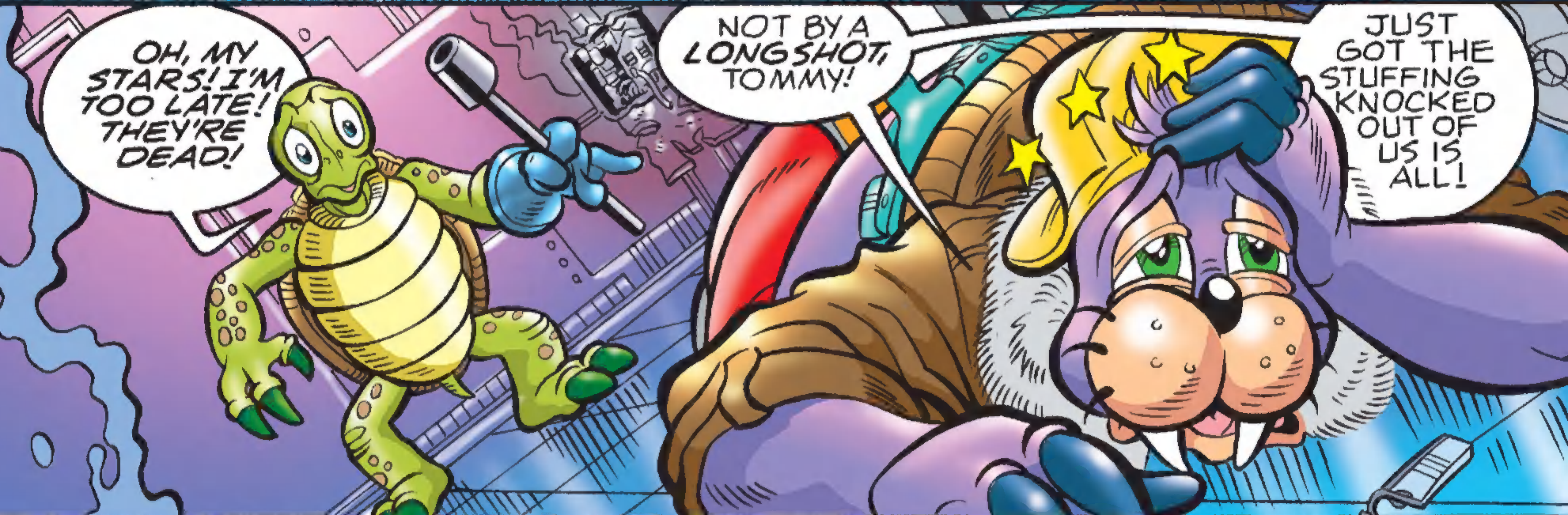
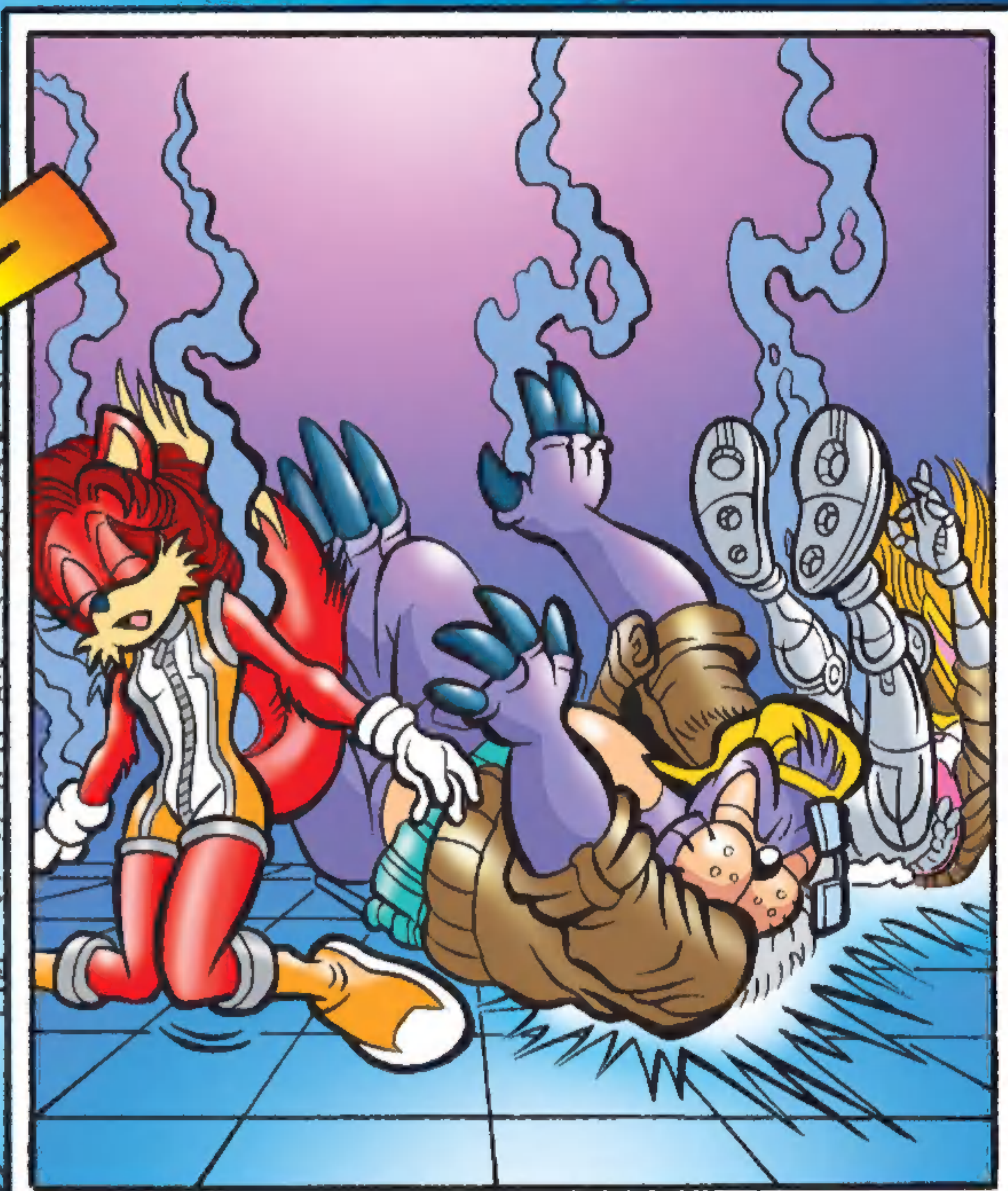
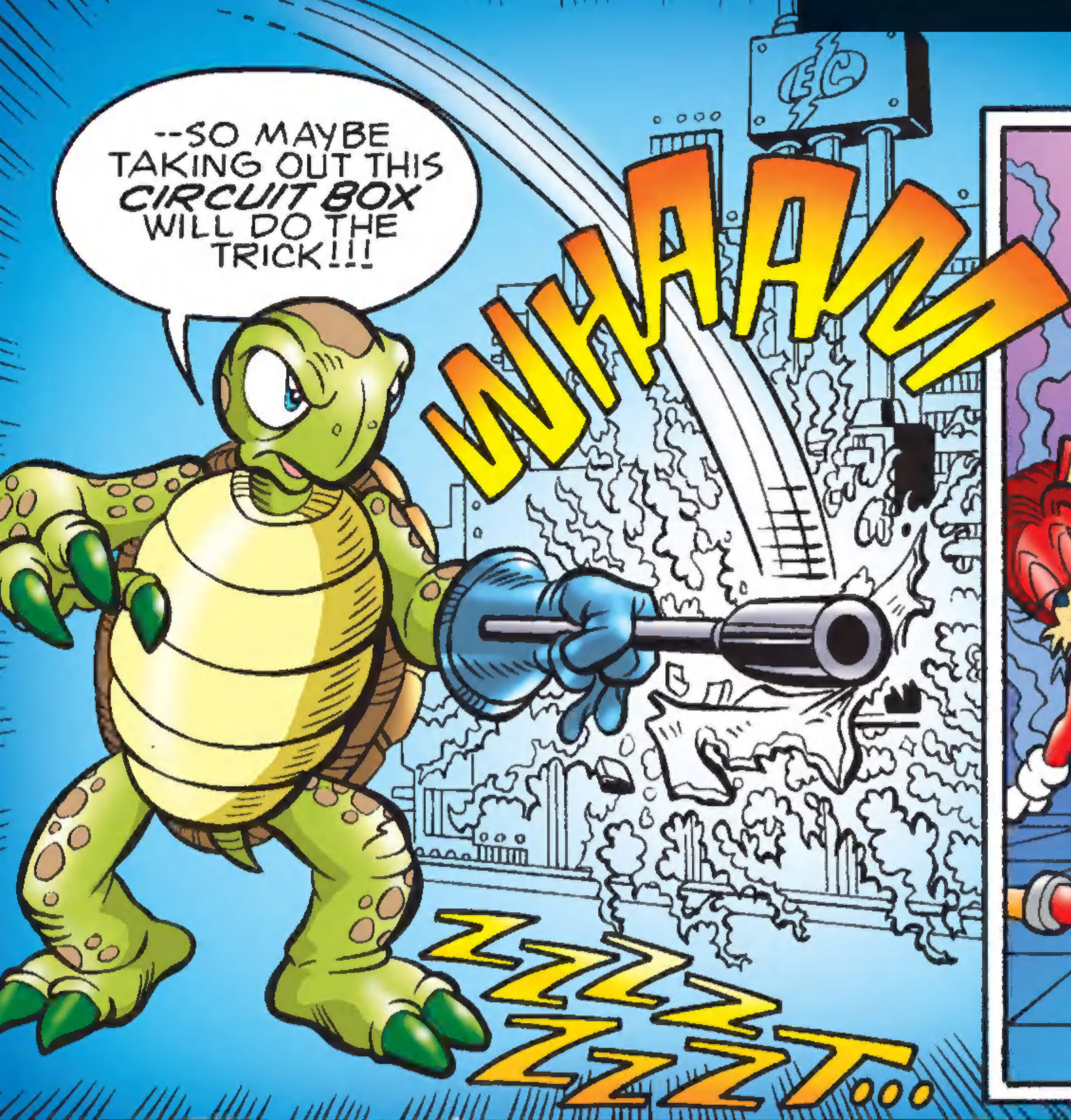
WEIRD!

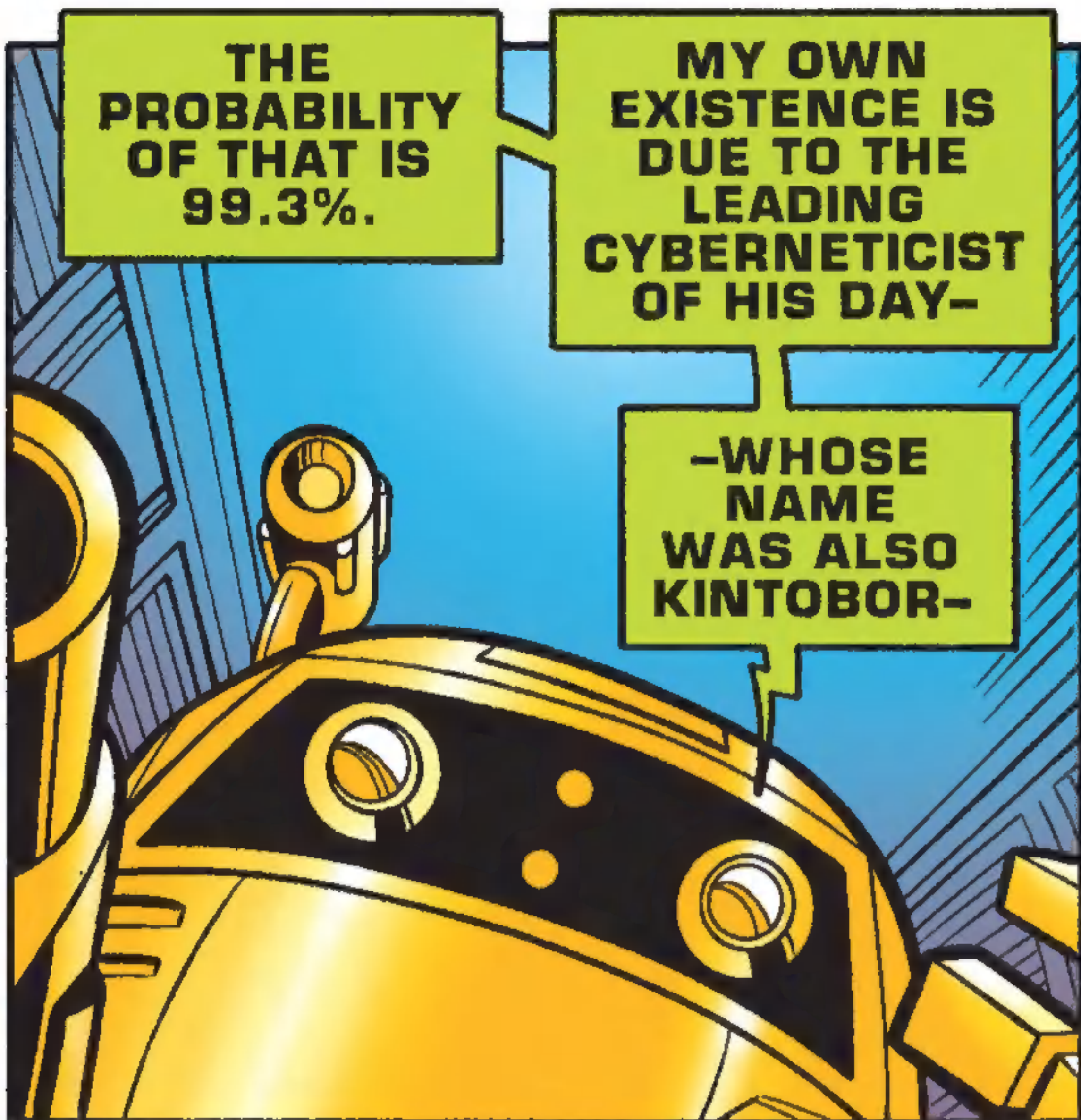


A THOUGHT
BEST REVISITED
LATER!



RIGHT
NOW, ROTOR
AND THE
GALS ARE
TAKING
QUITE A
HAMMERING--





THE
PROBABILITY
OF THAT IS
99.3%.

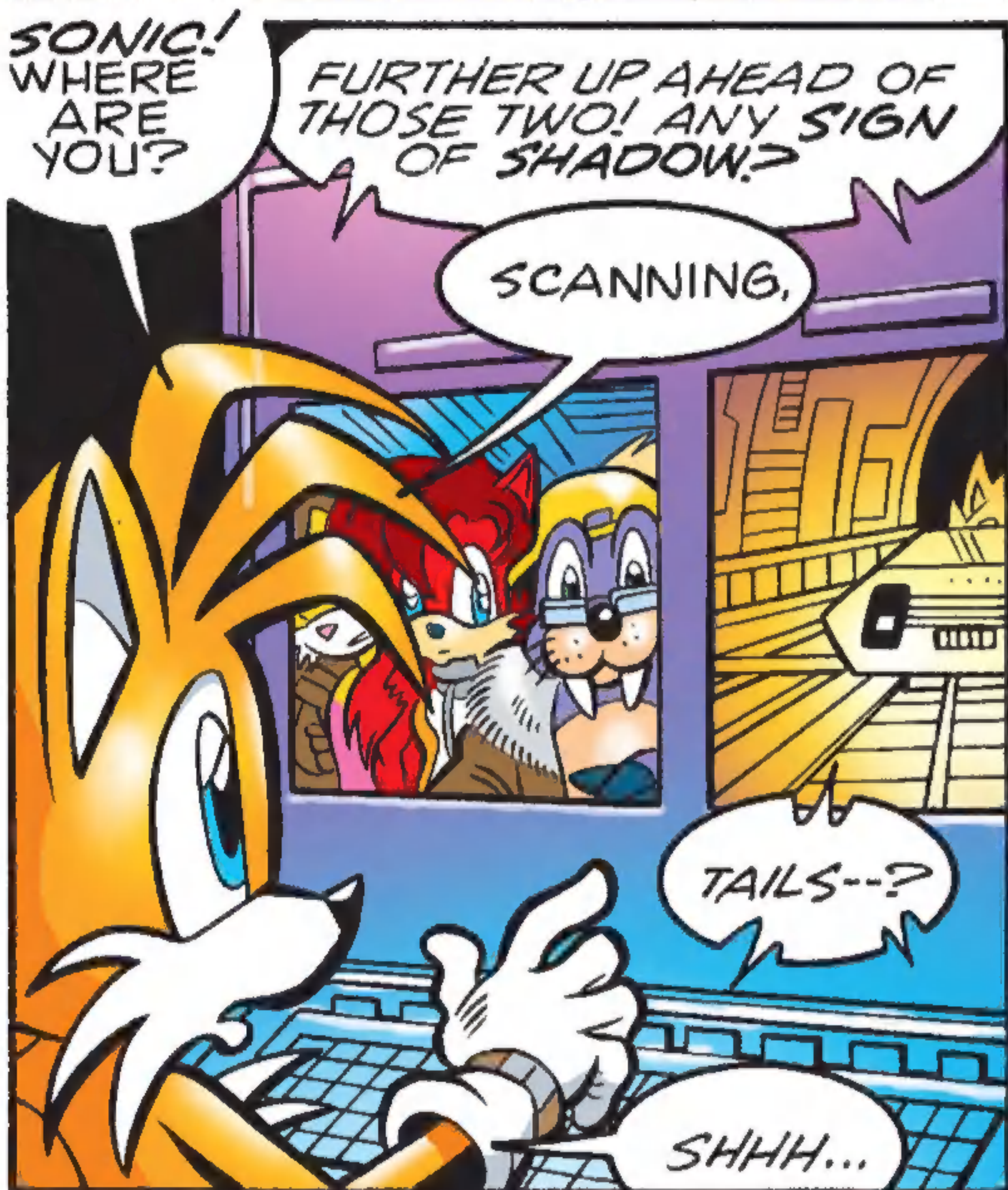
MY OWN
EXISTENCE IS
DUE TO THE
LEADING
CYBERNETICIST
OF HIS DAY-

-WHOSE
NAME
WAS ALSO
KINTOBOR-



-IVAN KINTOBOR, BORN
JUNE 6, 2006, EXACTLY TWELVE
THOUSAND, TEN YEARS,
11 MONTHS, 2 WEEKS, 9 HOURS,
47 MINUTES AND 13.7 SECONDS
AGO, ACCORDING TO MY INTERNAL
CLOCK.

DID HE JUST
SAY WHAT I
HEARD HIM SAY?



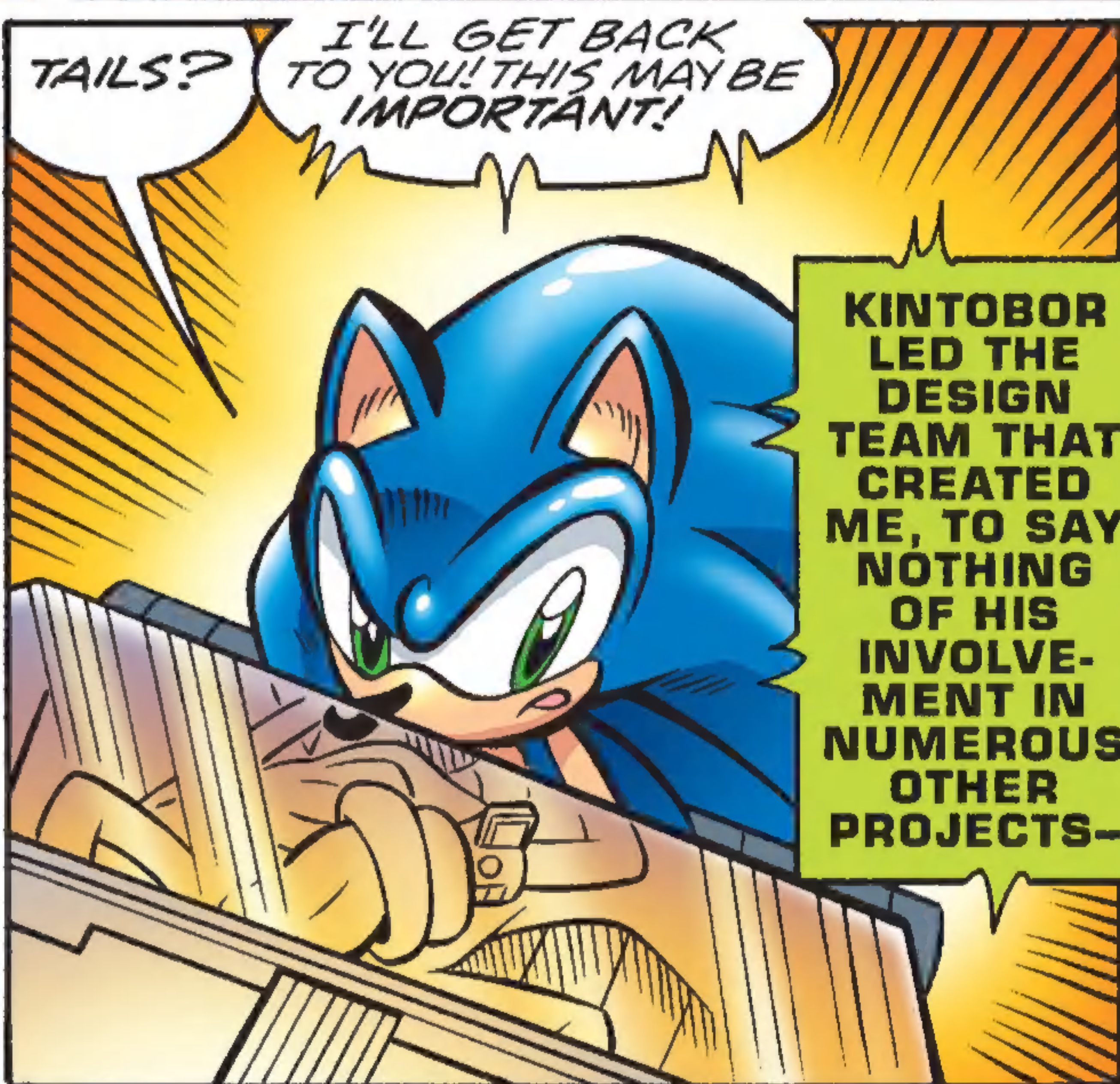
SONIC!
WHERE
ARE
YOU?

FURTHER UP AHEAD OF
THOSE TWO! ANY SIGN
OF SHADOW?

SCANNING.

TAILS--?

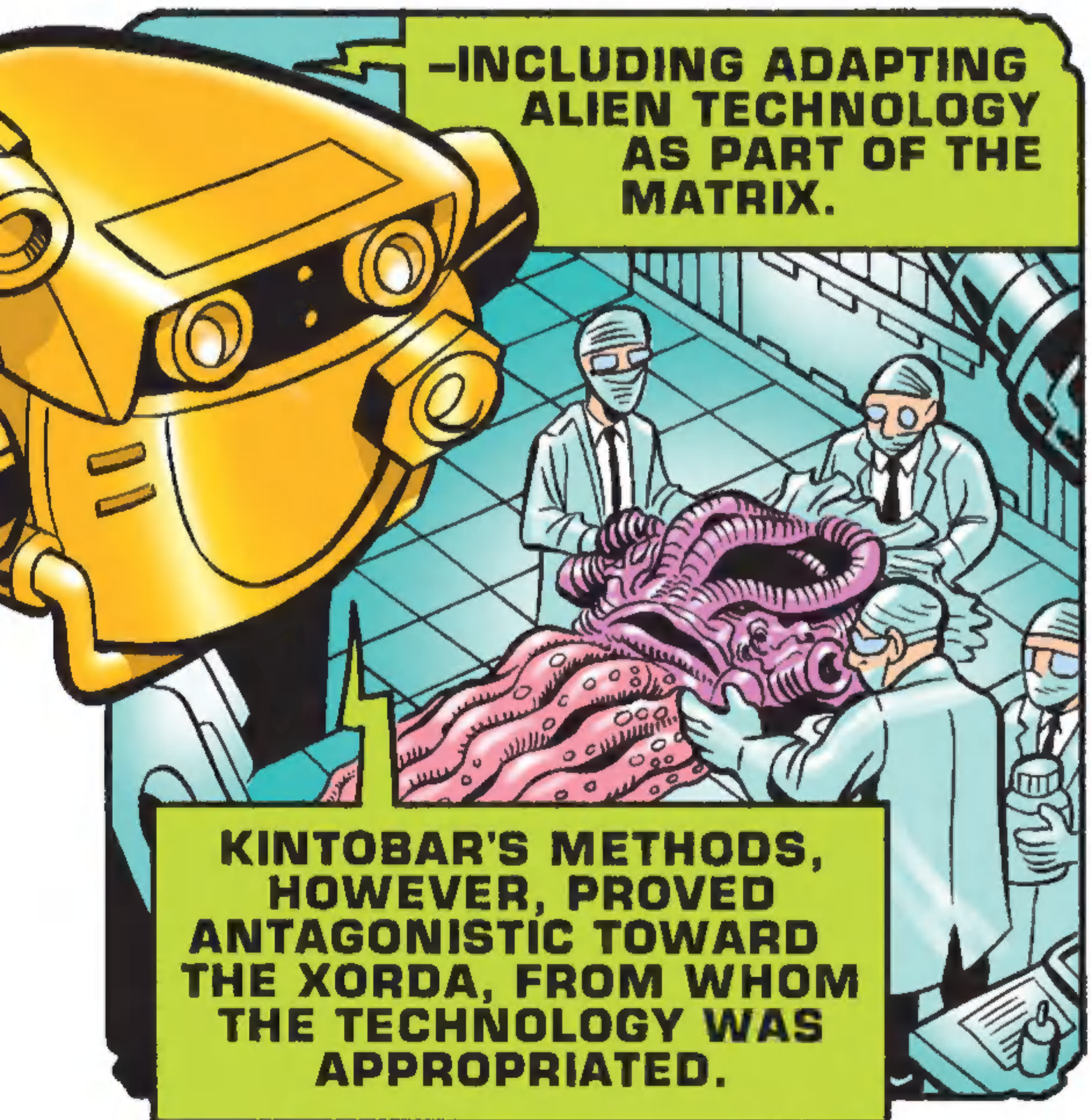
SHHH...



TAILS?

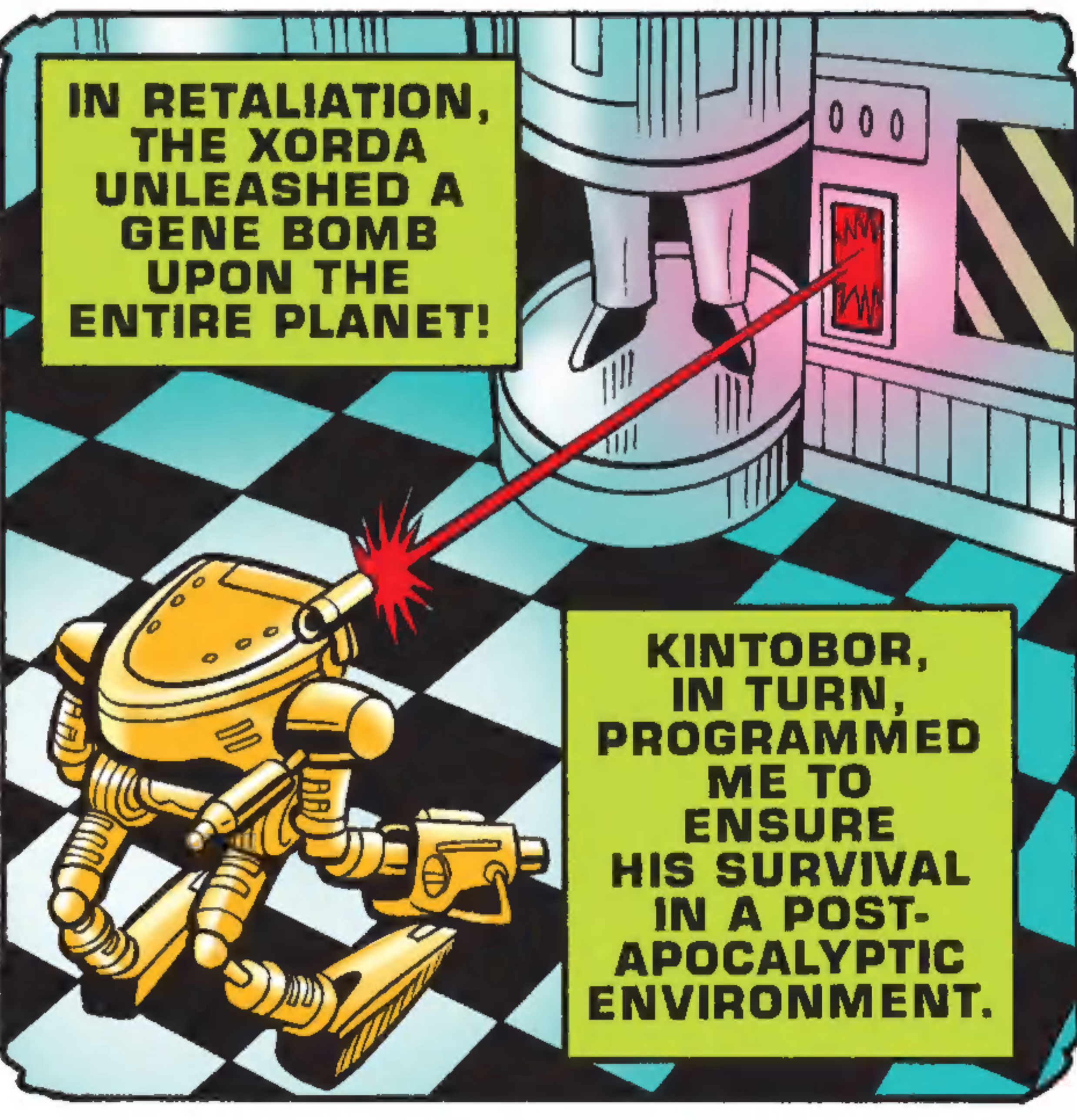
I'LL GET BACK
TO YOU! THIS MAY BE
IMPORTANT!

KINTOBOR
LED THE
DESIGN
TEAM THAT
CREATED
ME, TO SAY
NOTHING
OF HIS
INVOLVE-
MENT IN
NUMEROUS
OTHER
PROJECTS-



-INCLUDING ADAPTING
ALIEN TECHNOLOGY
AS PART OF THE
MATRIX.

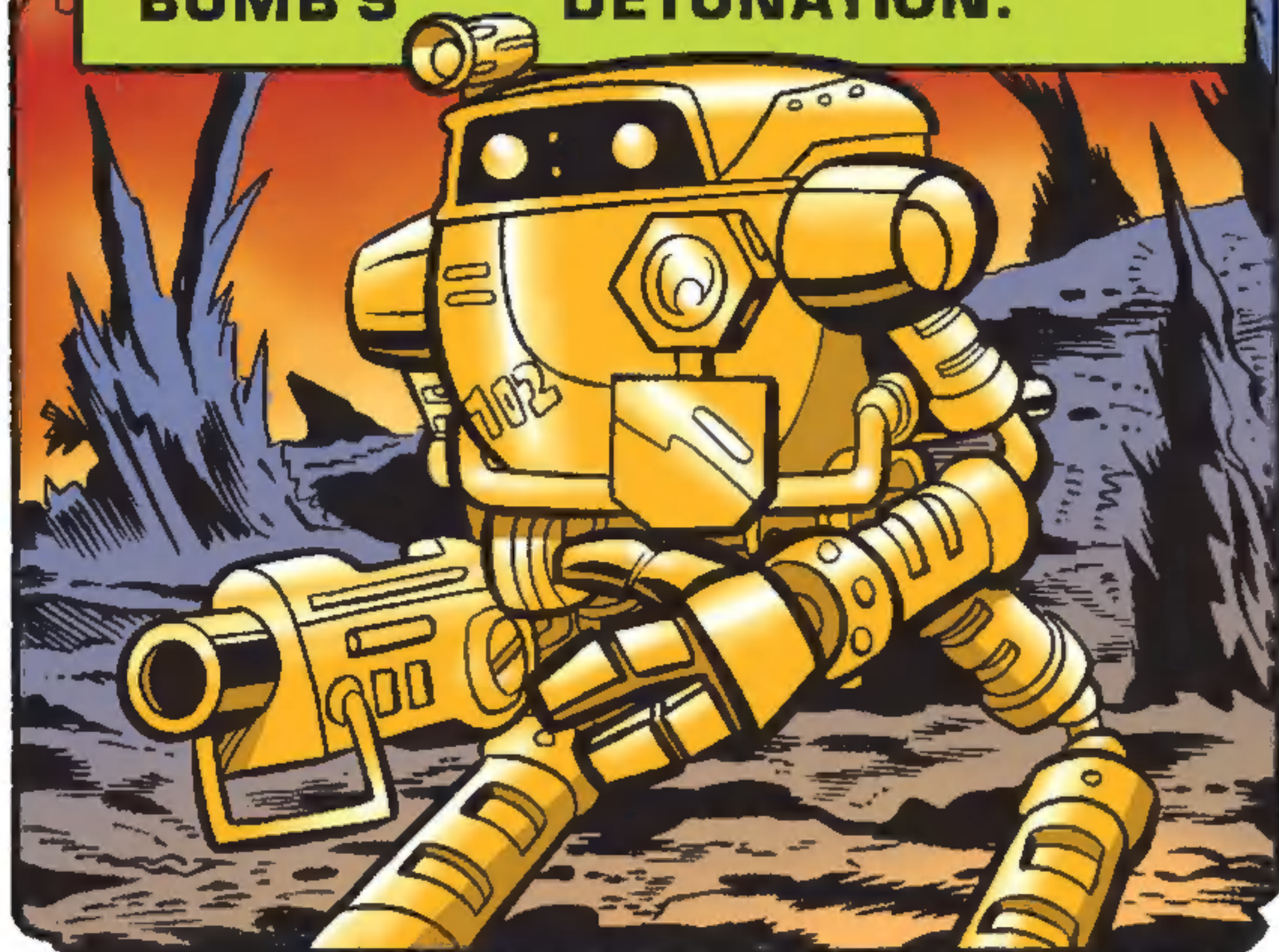
KINTOBOR'S METHODS,
HOWEVER, PROVED
ANTAGONISTIC TOWARD
THE XORDA, FROM WHOM
THE TECHNOLOGY WAS
APPROPRIATED.



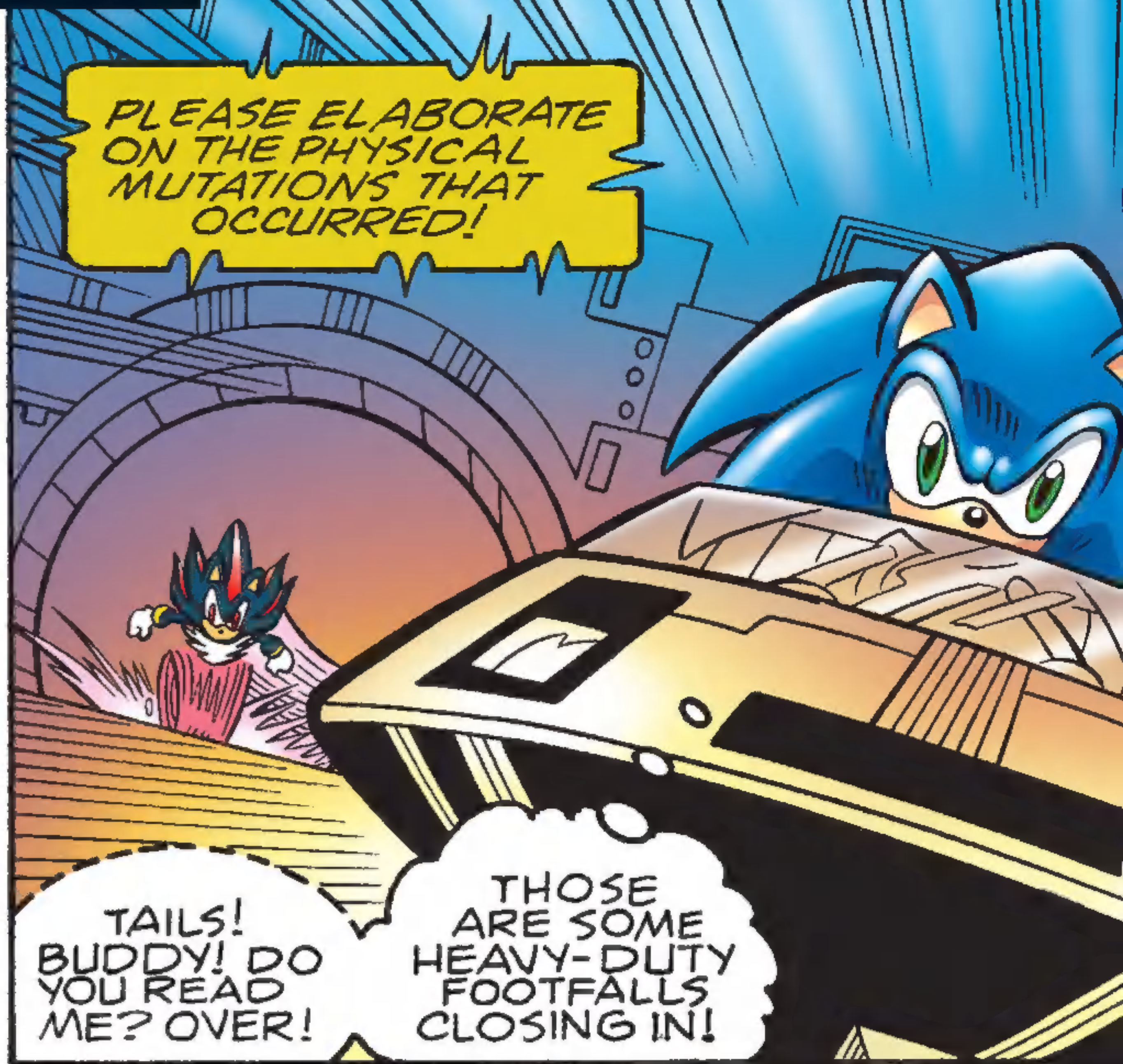
IN RETALIATION,
THE XORDA
UNLEASHED A
GENE BOMB
UPON THE
ENTIRE PLANET!

KINTOBOR,
IN TURN,
PROGRAMMED
ME TO
ENSURE
HIS SURVIVAL
IN A POST-
APOCALYPTIC
ENVIRONMENT.

FOR SEVERAL DECADES AFTER-
WARD, MY PRIMARY TASKS
INCLUDED MONITORING HIS LIFE
CELL CHAMBER AS WELL AS THE
PHYSICAL ALTERATIONS THAT
BEFELL THE PLANET UPON THE
BOMB'S DETONATION.



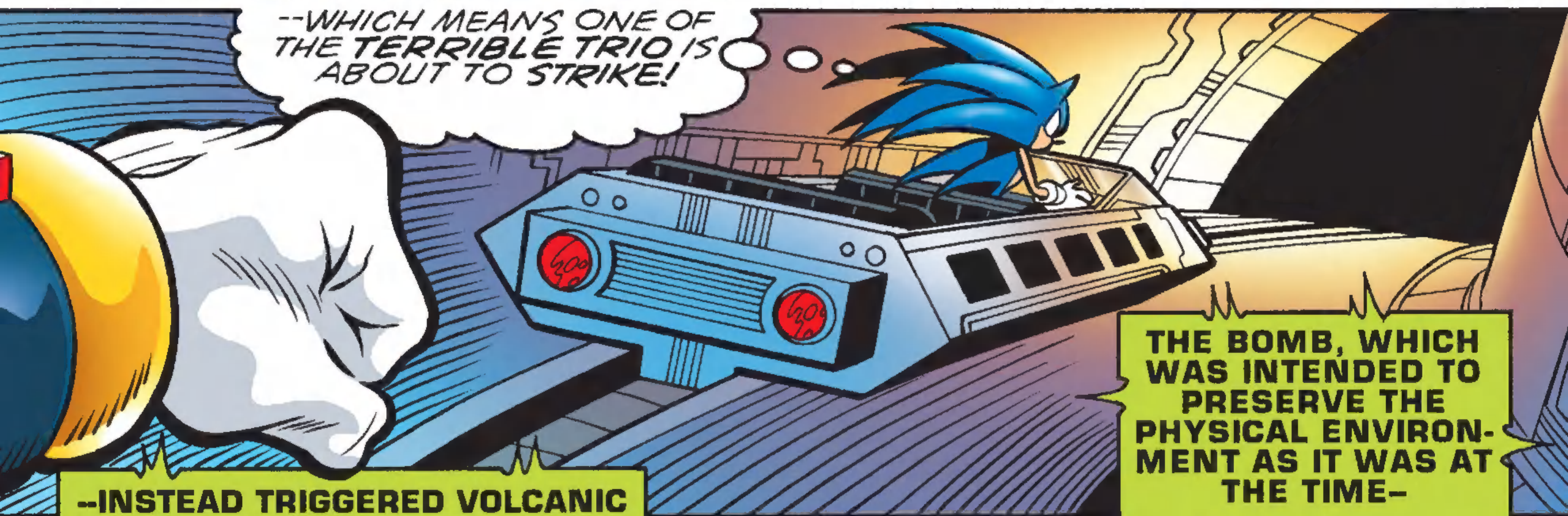
PLEASE ELABORATE
ON THE PHYSICAL
MUTATIONS THAT
OCCURRED!



TAILS!
BUDDY! DO
YOU READ
ME? OVER!

THOSE
ARE SOME
HEAVY-DUTY
FOOTFALLS
CLOSING IN!

--WHICH MEANS ONE OF
THE TERRIBLE TRIO IS
ABOUT TO STRIKE!



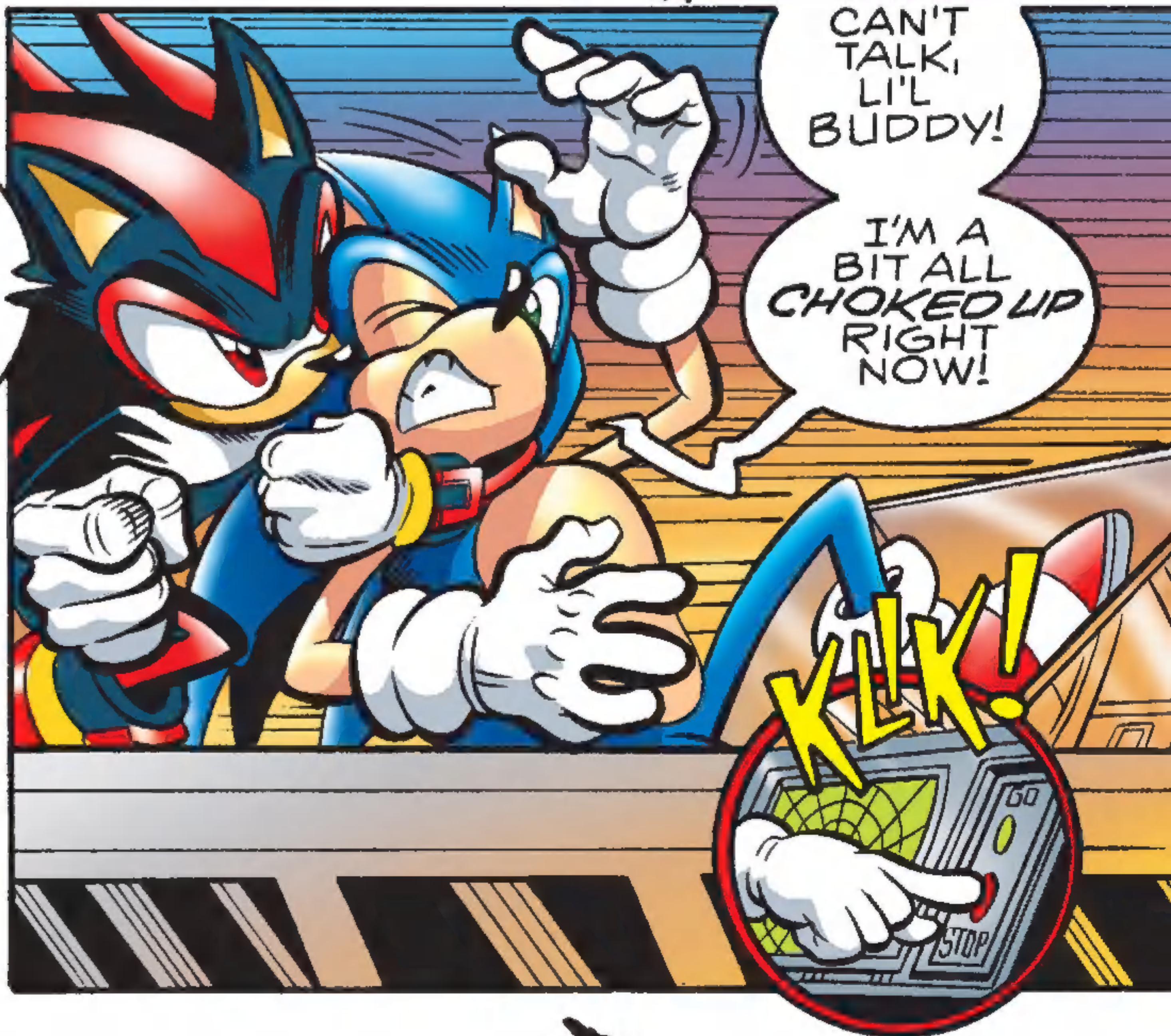
--INSTEAD TRIGGERED VOLCANIC
REACTIONS WHICH SENT
BILLIONS OF TONS
OF ASH AND DIRT
INTO THE
ATMOSPHERE!

THE BOMB, WHICH
WAS INTENDED TO
PRESERVE THE
PHYSICAL ENVIRON-
MENT AS IT WAS AT
THE TIME--



SONIC!
DO YOU
REALIZE
WHAT
HE'S
SAYING?

THIS IS WHAT
IS KNOWN IN
CURRENT
ECHIDNA
THEOLOGY AS
THE FIRST DAY
OF FURY!



CAN'T
TALK,
I'L
BUDDY!

I'M A
BIT ALL
CHOKED UP
RIGHT
NOW!



--AND
I NEED A
BRAKE!

UNHAPPY
LANDINGS, YOU
SECOND-RATE
WANNA-BE!



IN ADDITION, BESIDES TRIGGERING THE DEVOLUTION OF HOMO SAPIENS, THE BOMB ACCELERATED THE EVOLUTION OF WHAT WAS ONCE REFERRED TO AS THE ANIMAL KINGDOM.

THIS PROCESS LASTED FOR WELL OVER A THOUSAND YEARS UNTIL THE SUN FINALLY BURNED THROUGH THE LAST OF THE ASH AND DIRT IN THE ATMOSPHERE.*

*AS RE-COUNTED IN TAILS #3.

WHUUMPH!

IT WAS AT THIS JUNCTURE, DURING ONE OF HIS INFREQUENT FORAYS FROM THE LIFE CELL CHAMBER, THAT KINTOBOR ADDED HISTORICAL EVENTS TO THE LIST OF SCIENTIFIC DATA I WAS TO COLLECT.

GOTTA TURN THE VOLUME DOWN BEFORE SHAD GETS A FIX ON ME!

WHY-OH-WHY DOES TAILS THINK WE NEED A HISTORY LESSON NOW, OF ALL TIMES?

AS VARIOUS SOCIETIES BEGAN TO EMERGE AND DEVELOP, A SECOND CATACLYSM ERUPTED BENEATH THE PLANET'S SURFACE-

LEVEL 33

SONIC! SHADOW'S GETTING UP!

--AND HE'S HEADING YOUR WAY!

-AS THE BERYL DEPOSITS REACTED TO THE ENERGY OF THE GENE BOMB AS IT WAS ABSORBED OVER TIME

SONIC!!!

HE'S-- HE'S NOT THERE!

AS EMERALDS ARE CRYSTALS OF THE MINERAL BERYL, THE CONDITIONS WERE PERFECT FOR THE CREATION OF THE POWER SOURCE NOW DESIGNATED AS CHAOS EMERALDS.

GOOD QUESTION! THERE ARE A NUMBER OF RECORDERS CONNECTED TO THE SYSTEM--

--BUT WHAT ABOUT SONIC?

HE AND SHADOW ARE ABOUT TO SQUARE OFF!

TAILS, ARE YOU **RECORDING** ALL OF THIS?

YOU WERE ABLE TO LEARN ALL THIS FROM YOUR VANTAGE POINT HERE?

AT VARIOUS TIMES, I WAS PROGRAMMED TO VENTURE FORTH AND COLLECT DATA.

I RECORDED THE FIRST CONQUEST BY THE CREATURE KNOWN AS MAMMOTH MOGUL TEN MILLENNIA AGO--

--TO SAY NOTHING OF ATTENDING THE CORONATION OF THE FIRST KING TO SIT ON THE THRONE OF ACORN!

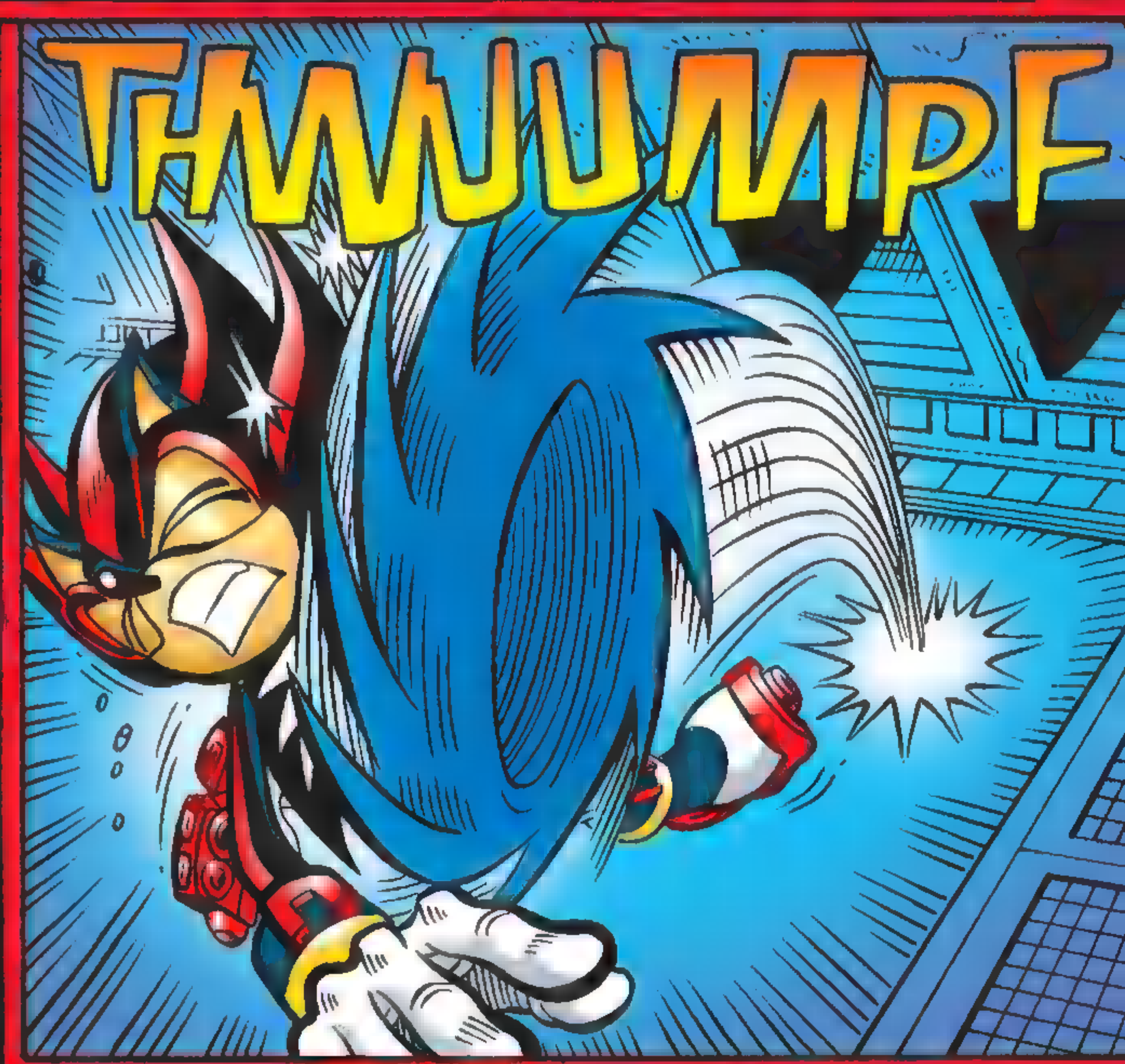
DID YOU EVER CROSS PATHS WITH MY CREATOR?

TO DATE, THE ANSWER IS NO

TO DO SO WOULD EXCEED THE PARAMETERS OF MY PROGRAMMING

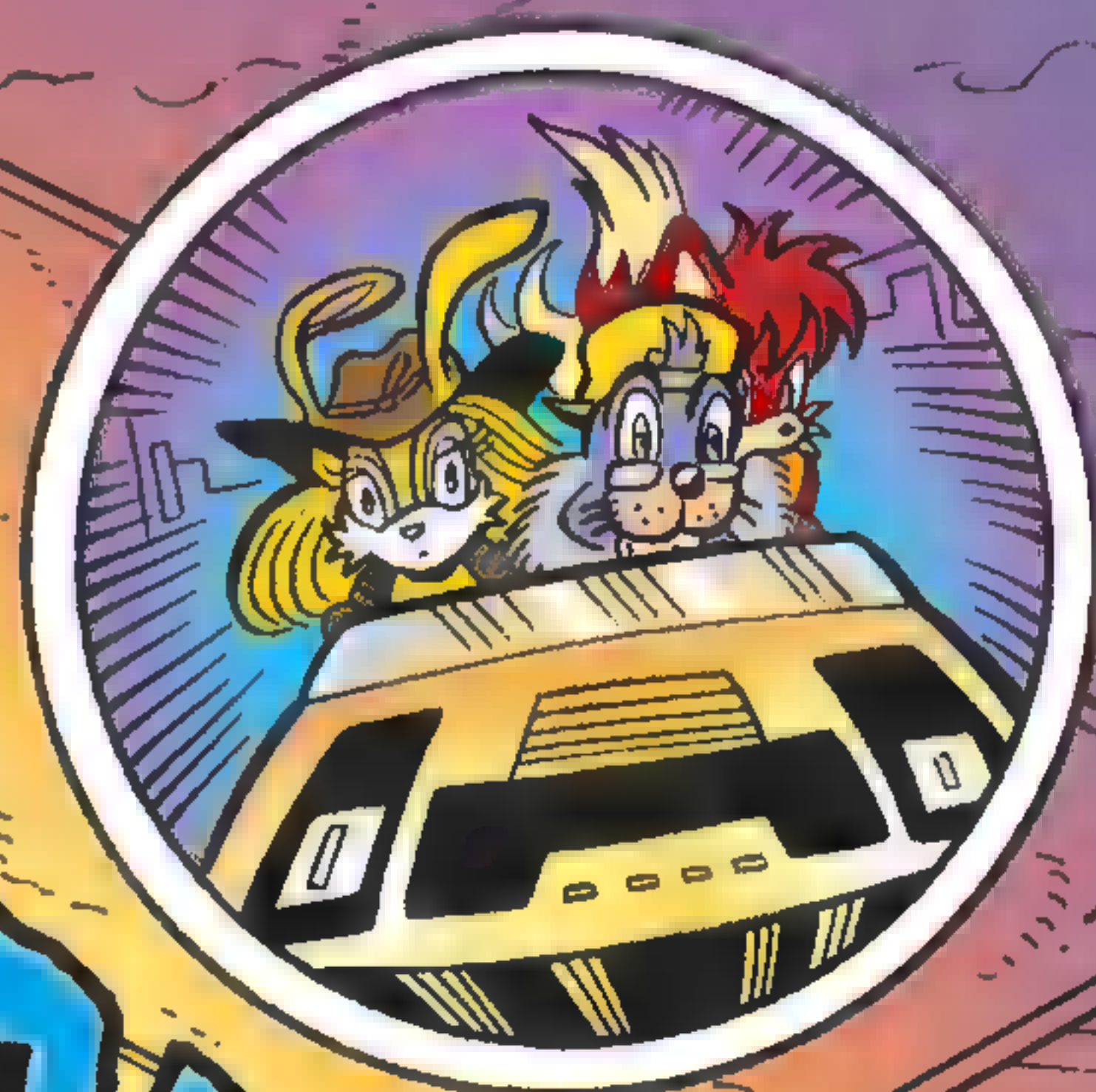
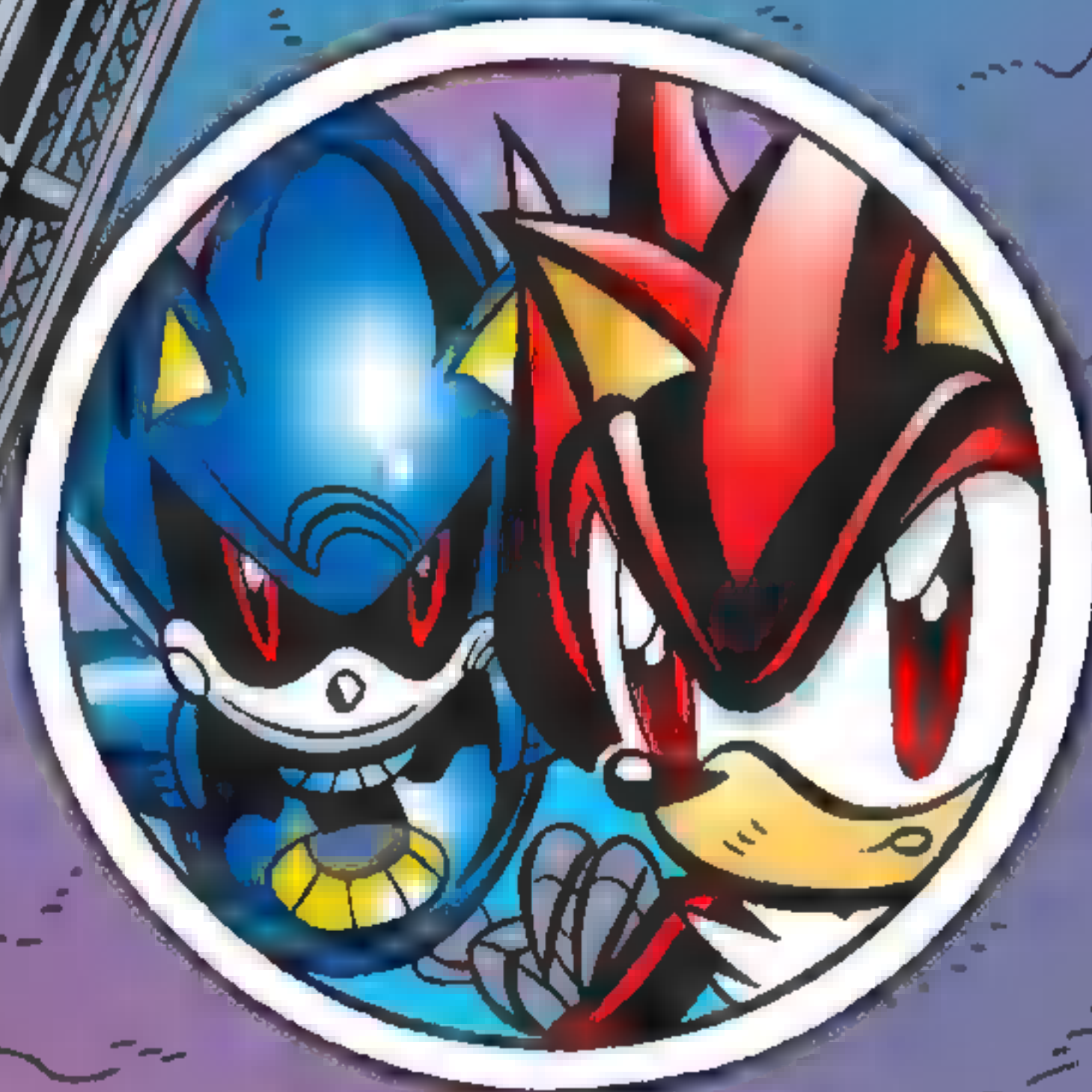
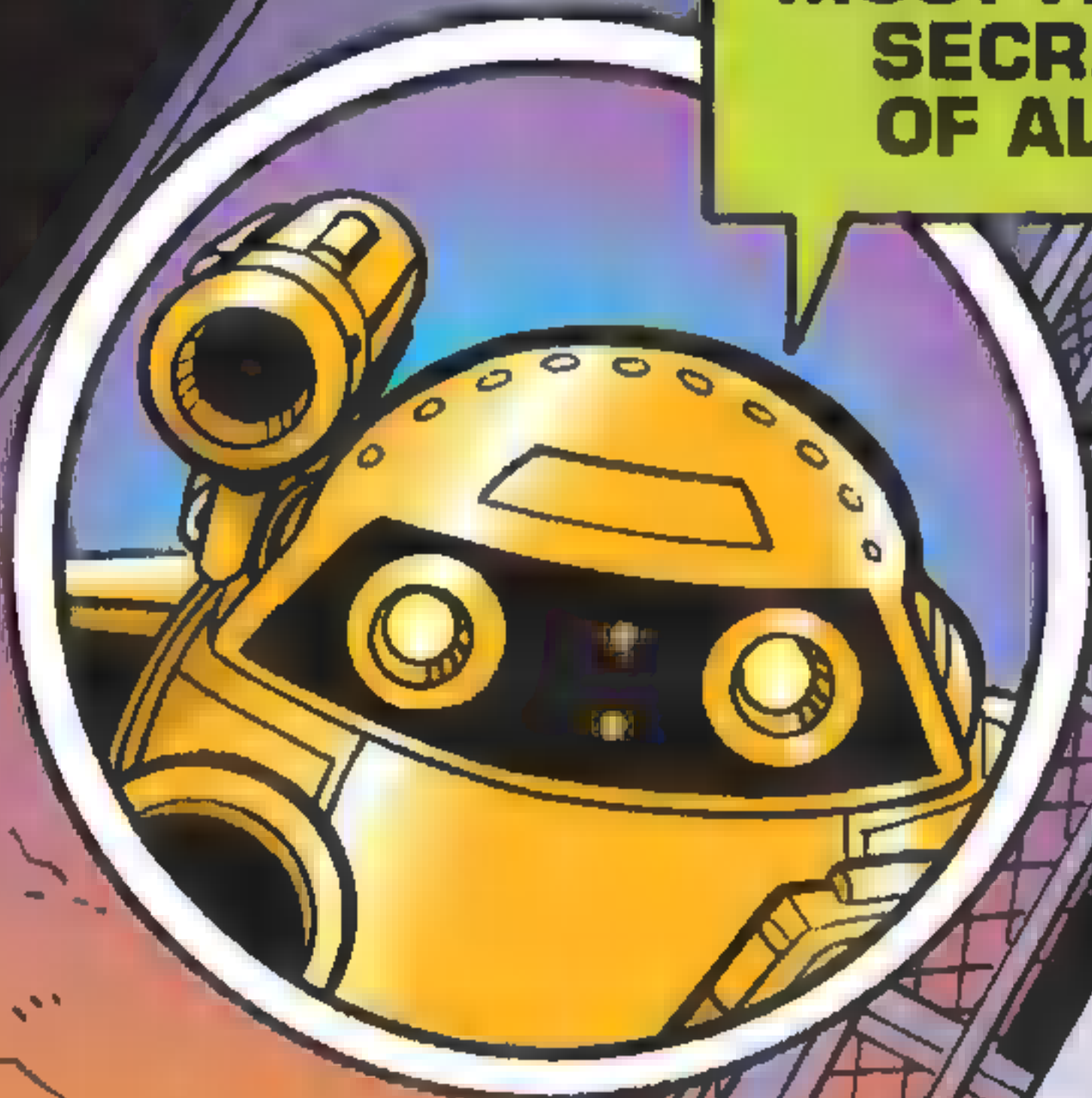
--AS WELL AS THE BEGINNINGS OF ECHIDNA CIVILIZATION--

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HEDGEHOG, SHADOW?

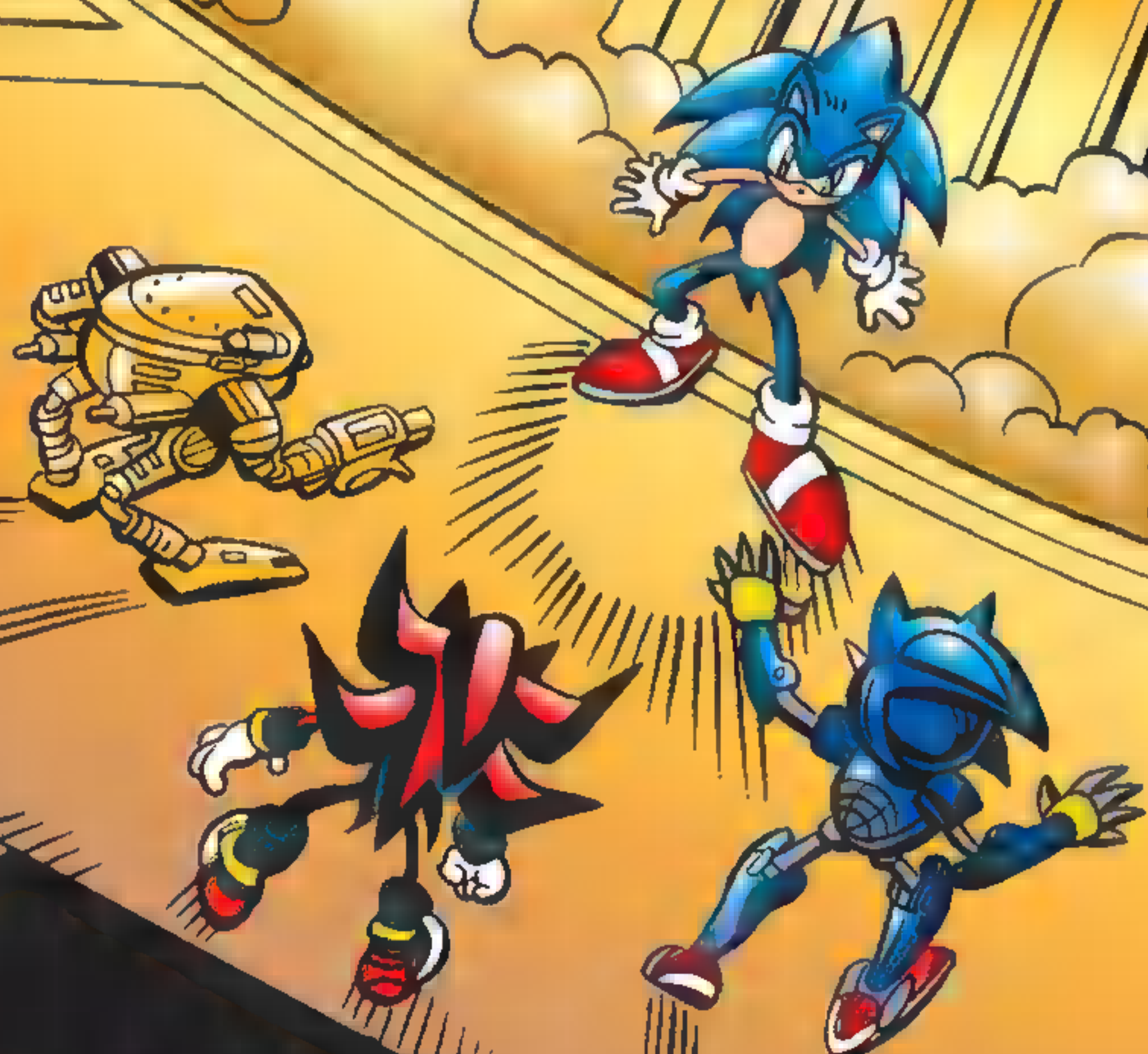




--YOU'VE
STUMBLED
ONTO THE
MOST FATAL
SECRET
OF ALL.



RRRUUMMBLL



THE COUNTDOWN IS NOW ON FOR...
ARMAGEDDON!
YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

"PLAYING AROUND"

STARRING

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

HOW COME
ROBOTNIK
HAS NEVER
FOUND
THIS PLACE?

BECAUSE THEN WE
WOULDN'T HAVE
A STORY, SILLY!

HURRY, CHILDREN!
LET'S FIND
OUR SEATS!

I'M GONNA SIT
RIGHT UP FRONT!

SCRIPT & ART:
NELSON RIBEIRO

COLORS:
JASON JENSEN

SINCE WE'RE EARLY
WE CAN SIT IN
THE FIRST RO...

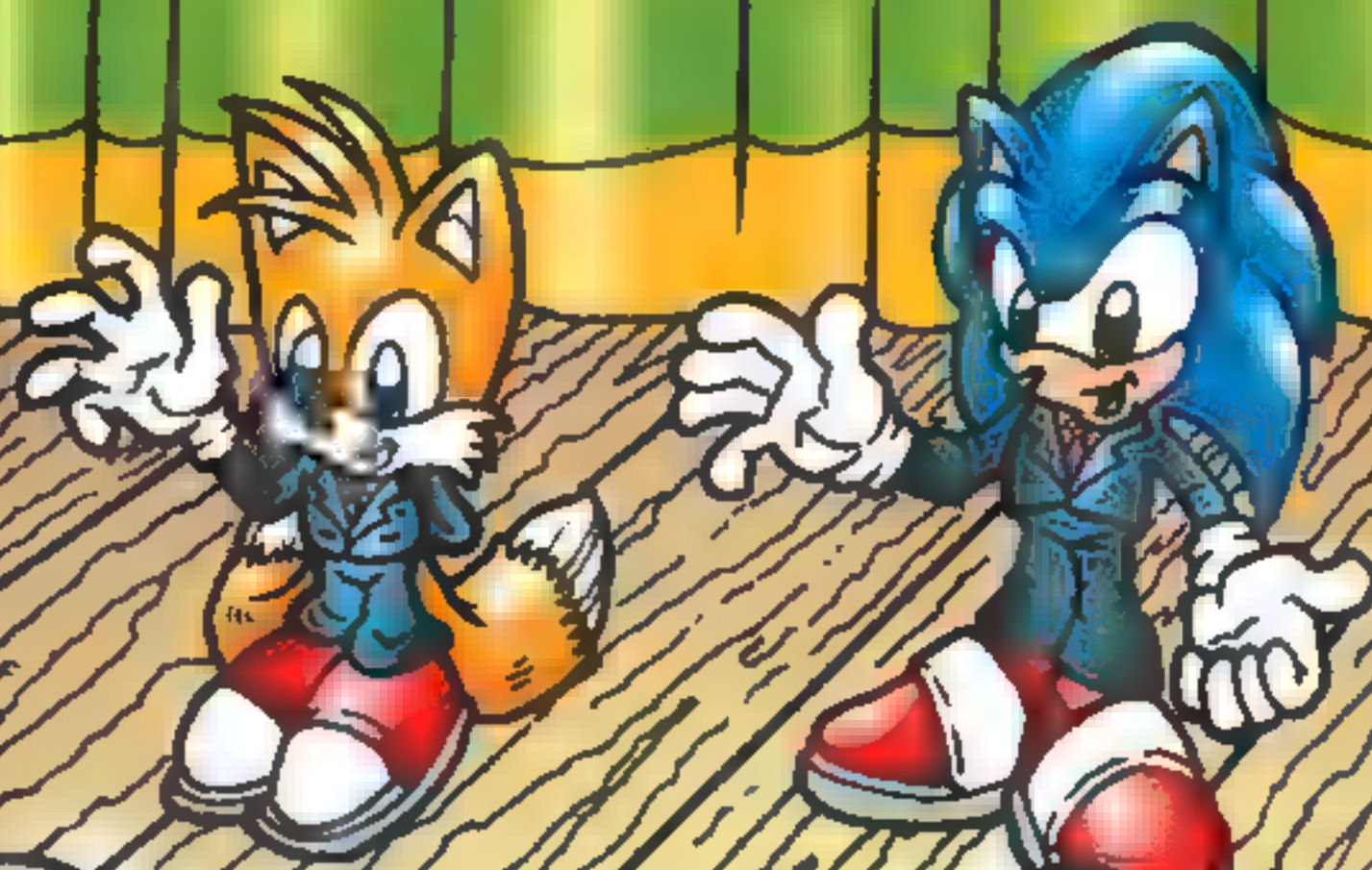
OH, GOOD EVENING
YOUR HIGHNESS!

PRINCESS, IF YOU'RE
HERE, WHO IS GOING
TO BE YOU UP THERE?

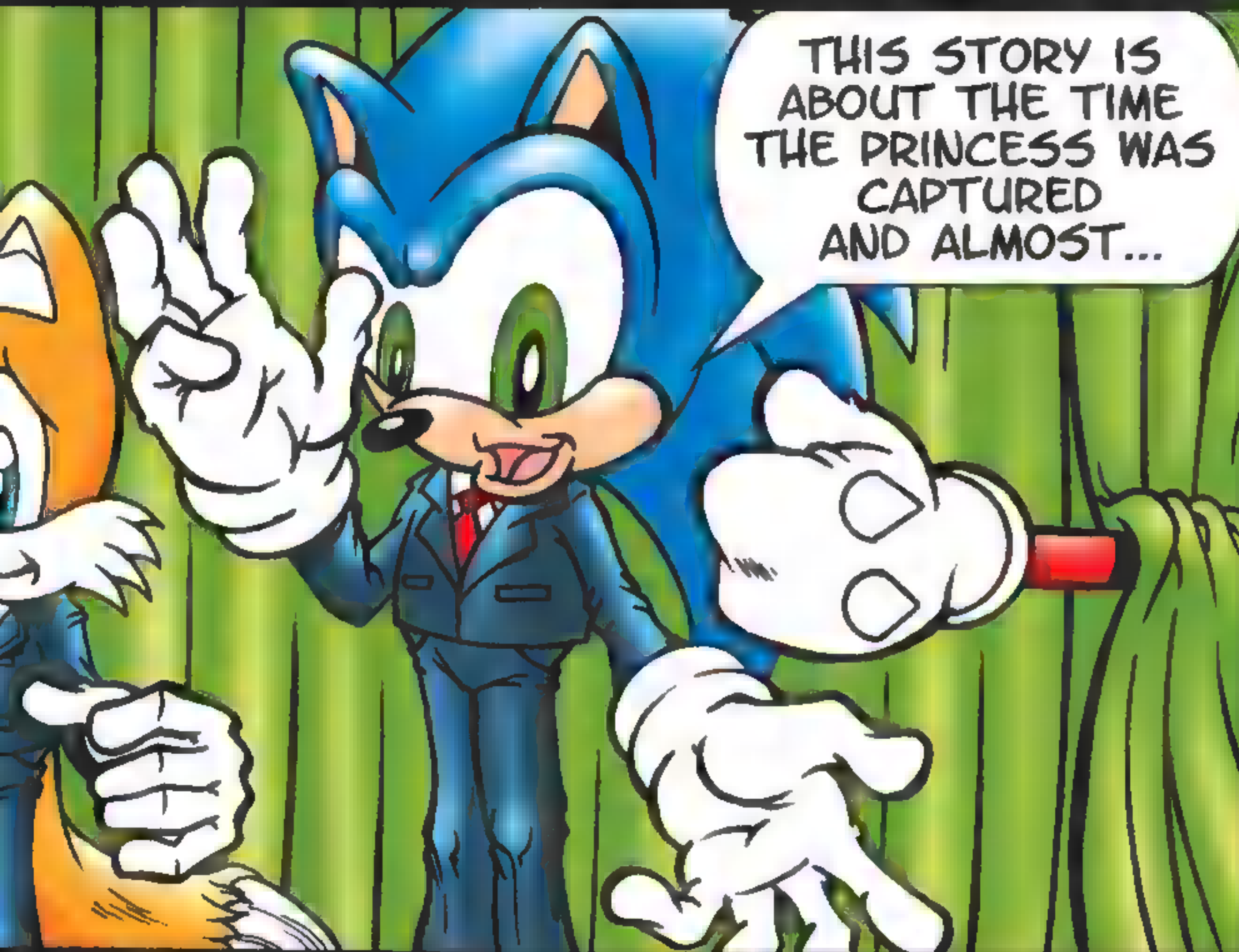
HEH! HEH!
I GUESS
WE'LL JUST
HAVE TO
WAIT AND SEE.

THE SHOW BEGINS...

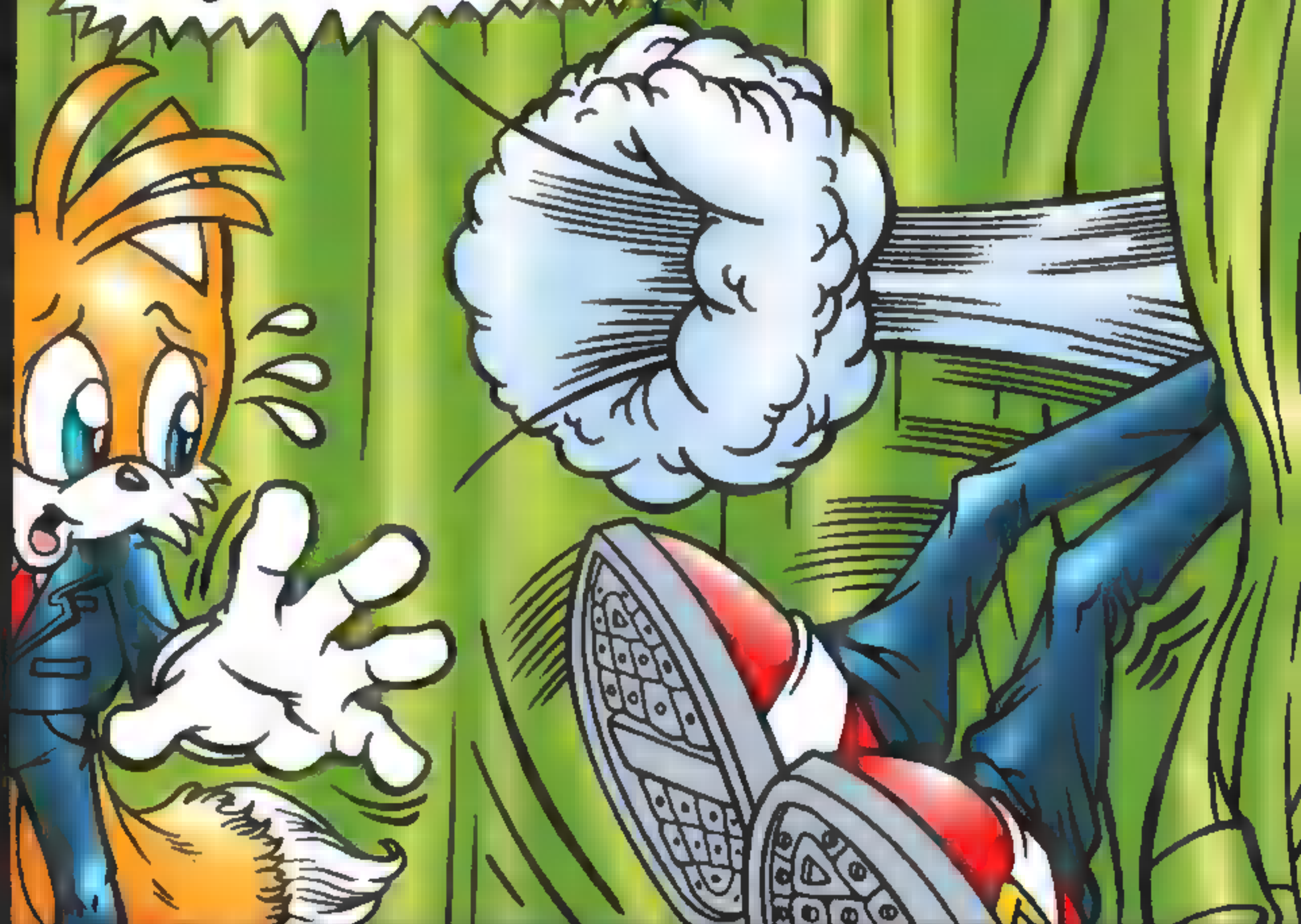
HI KIDS!
SONIC AND I, ALONG
WITH THE REST OF
THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS
ARE REALLY EXCITED
ABOUT PUTTING THIS
SHOW ON FOR YOU!



THIS STORY IS
ABOUT THE TIME
THE PRINCESS WAS
CAPTURED
AND ALMOST...



RoboTocized!!

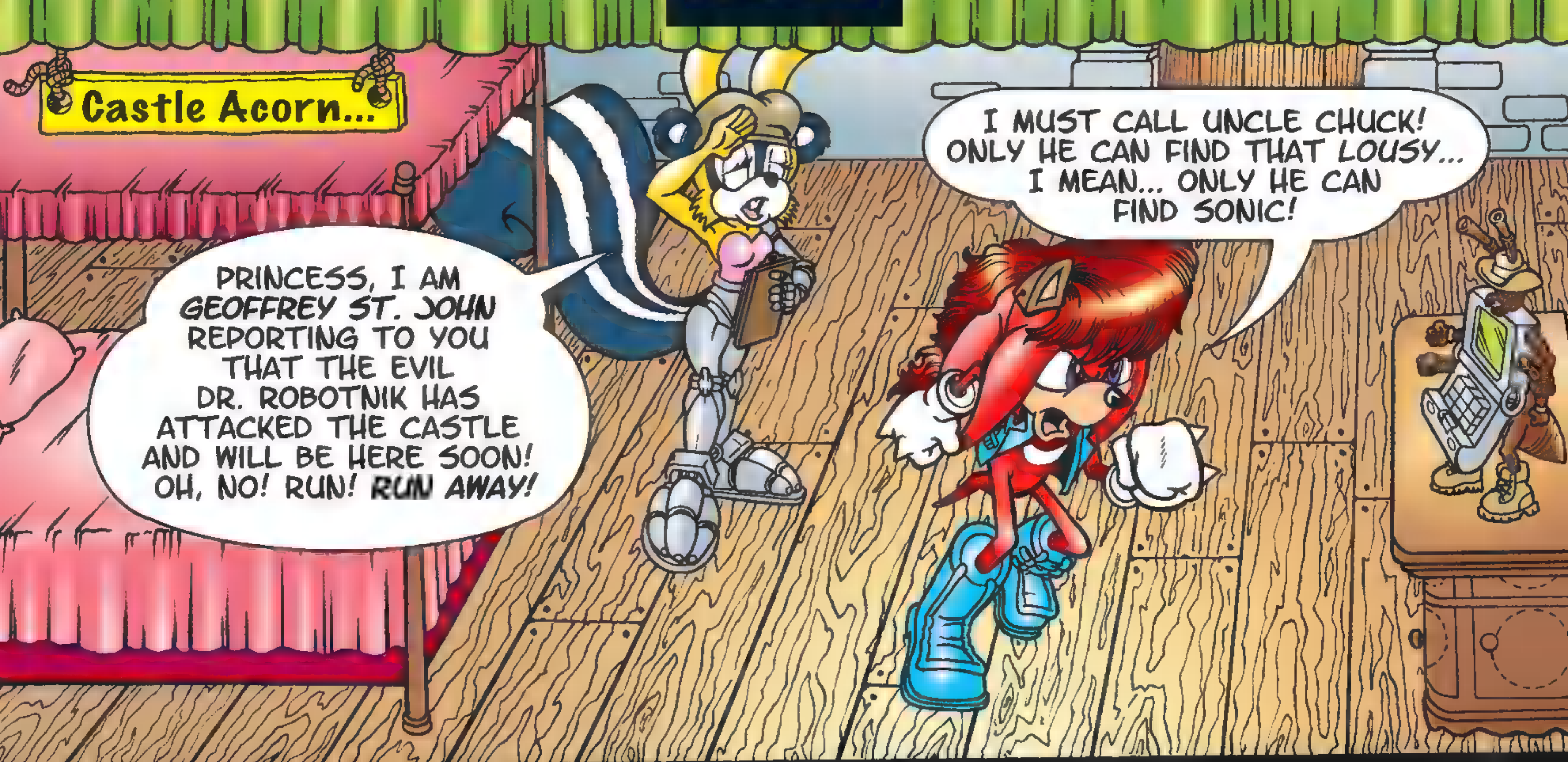


YA KNOW, HEDGEHOG,
YOU'RE REAL LUCKY
THIS IS FOR THE KIDS!
OTHERWISE, I'D
CLOBBER YOU!



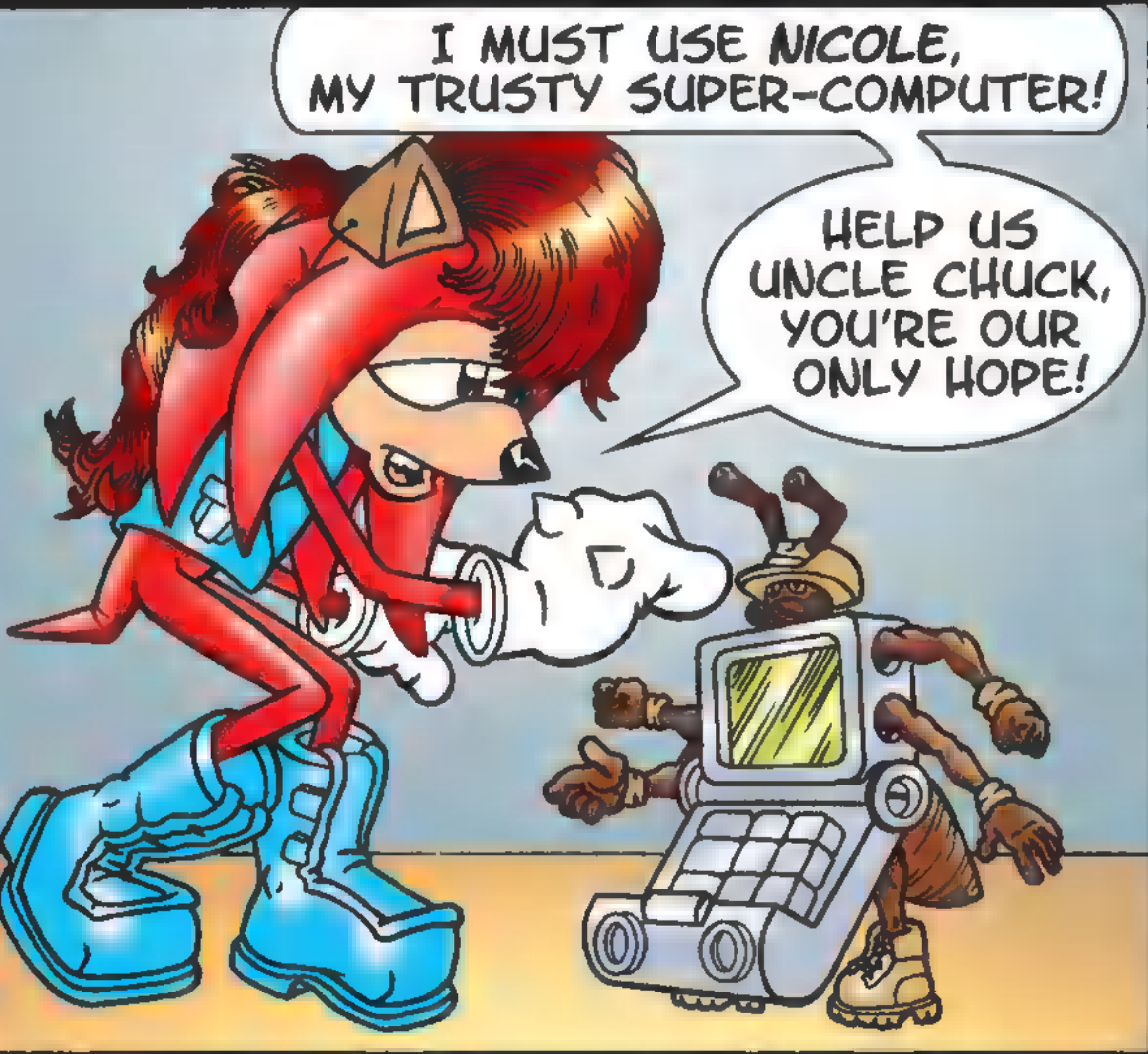
GOSH, I CAN'T
BELIEVE I DIDN'T
EVEN GET THE PART
TO PLAY MYSELF!





PRINCESS, I AM GEOFFREY ST. JOHN REPORTING TO YOU THAT THE EVIL DR. ROBOTNIK HAS ATTACKED THE CASTLE AND WILL BE HERE SOON! OH, NO! RUN! RUN AWAY!

I MUST CALL UNCLE CHUCK! ONLY HE CAN FIND THAT LOUSY... I MEAN... ONLY HE CAN FIND SONIC!



I MUST USE NICOLE, MY TRUSTY SUPER-COMPUTER!

HELP US UNCLE CHUCK, YOU'RE OUR ONLY HOPE!



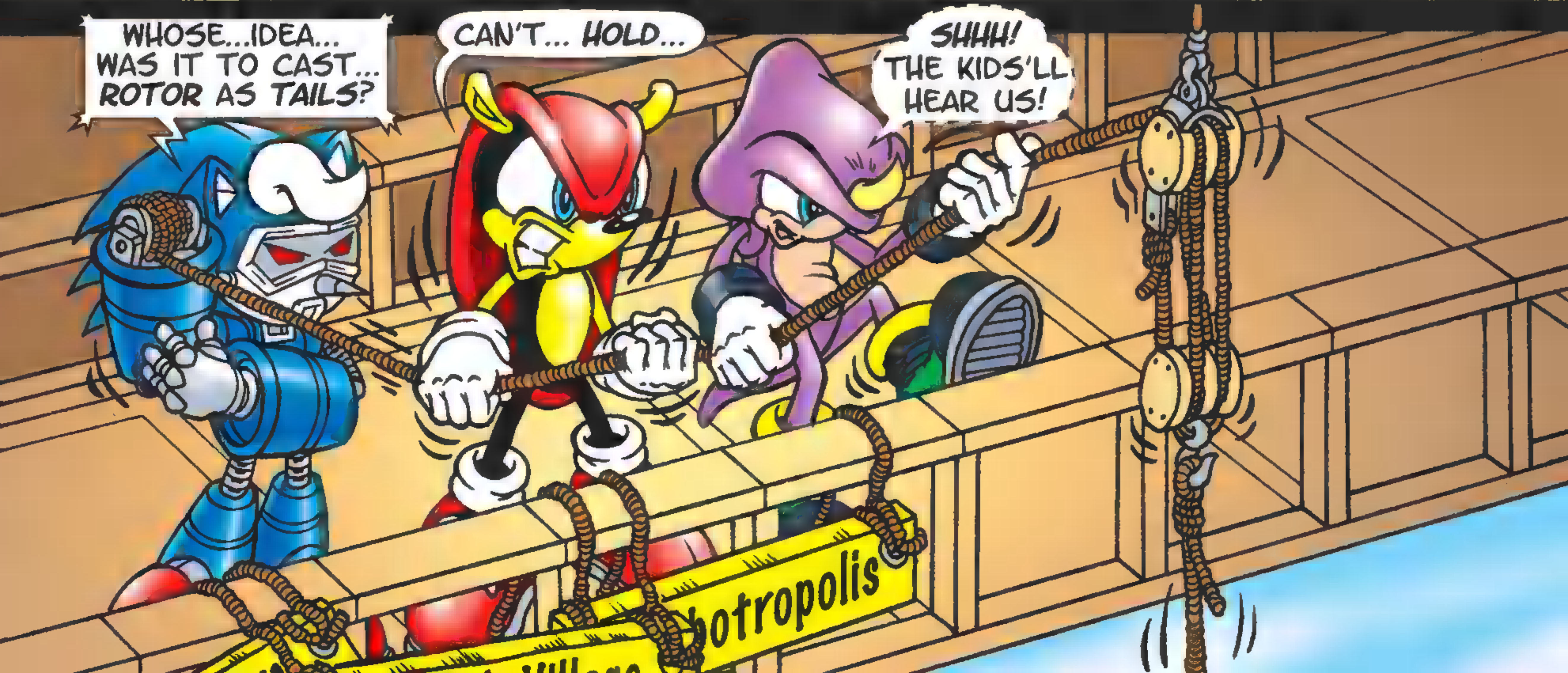
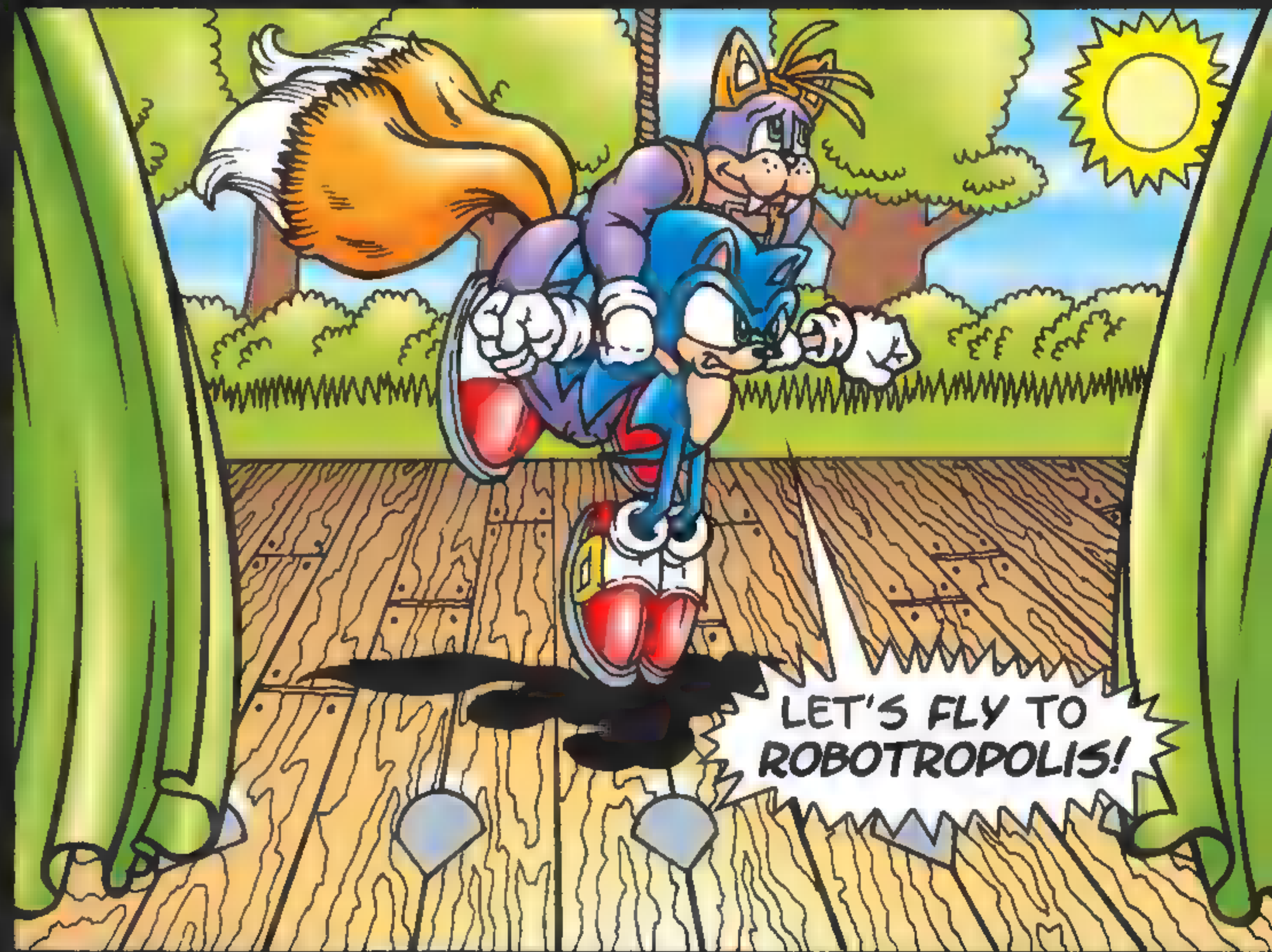
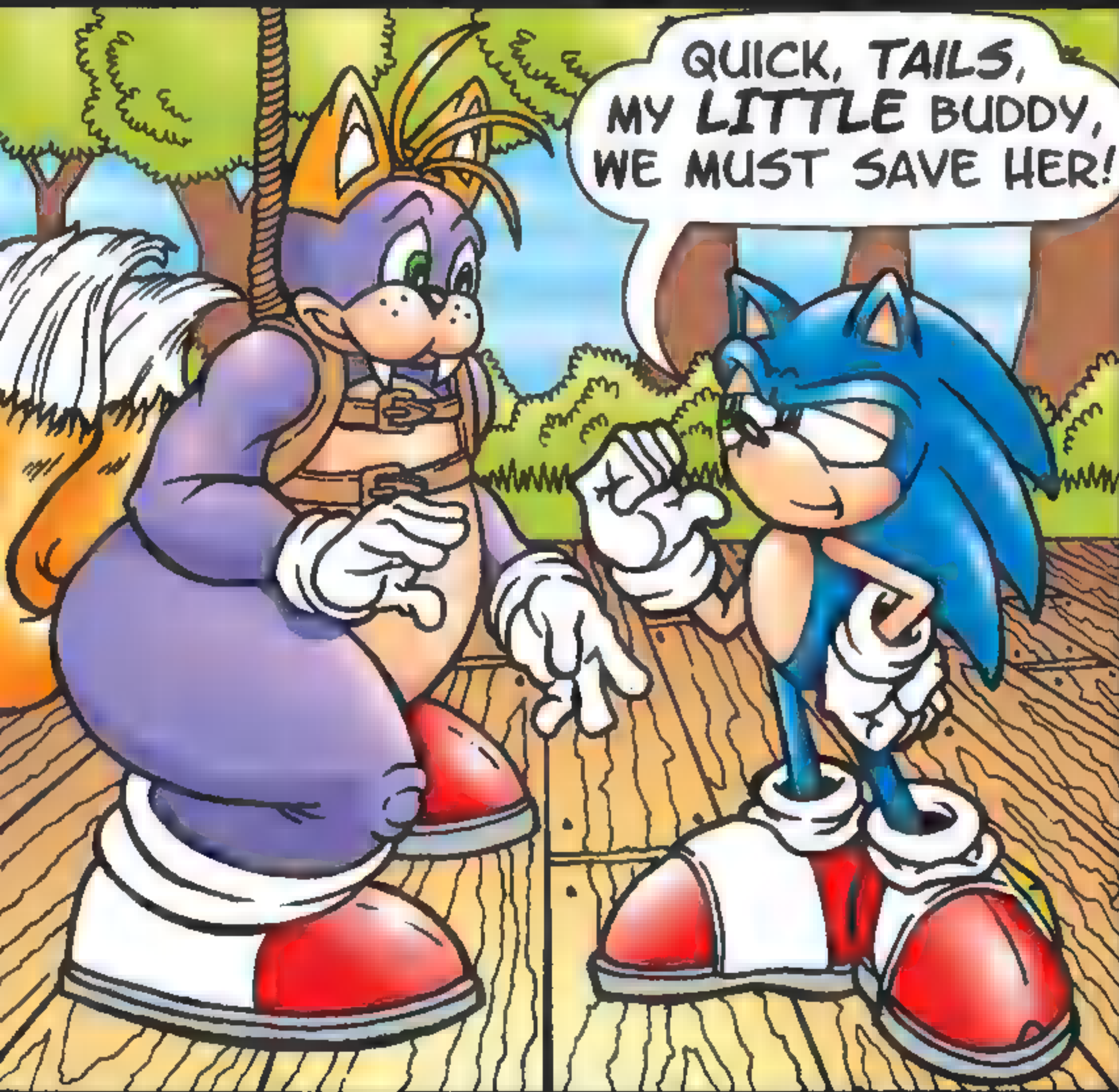
HA HA HA! I AM THE EVIL DR. ROBOTNIK HERE TO CAPTURE THE PRINCESS! HA HA HA!

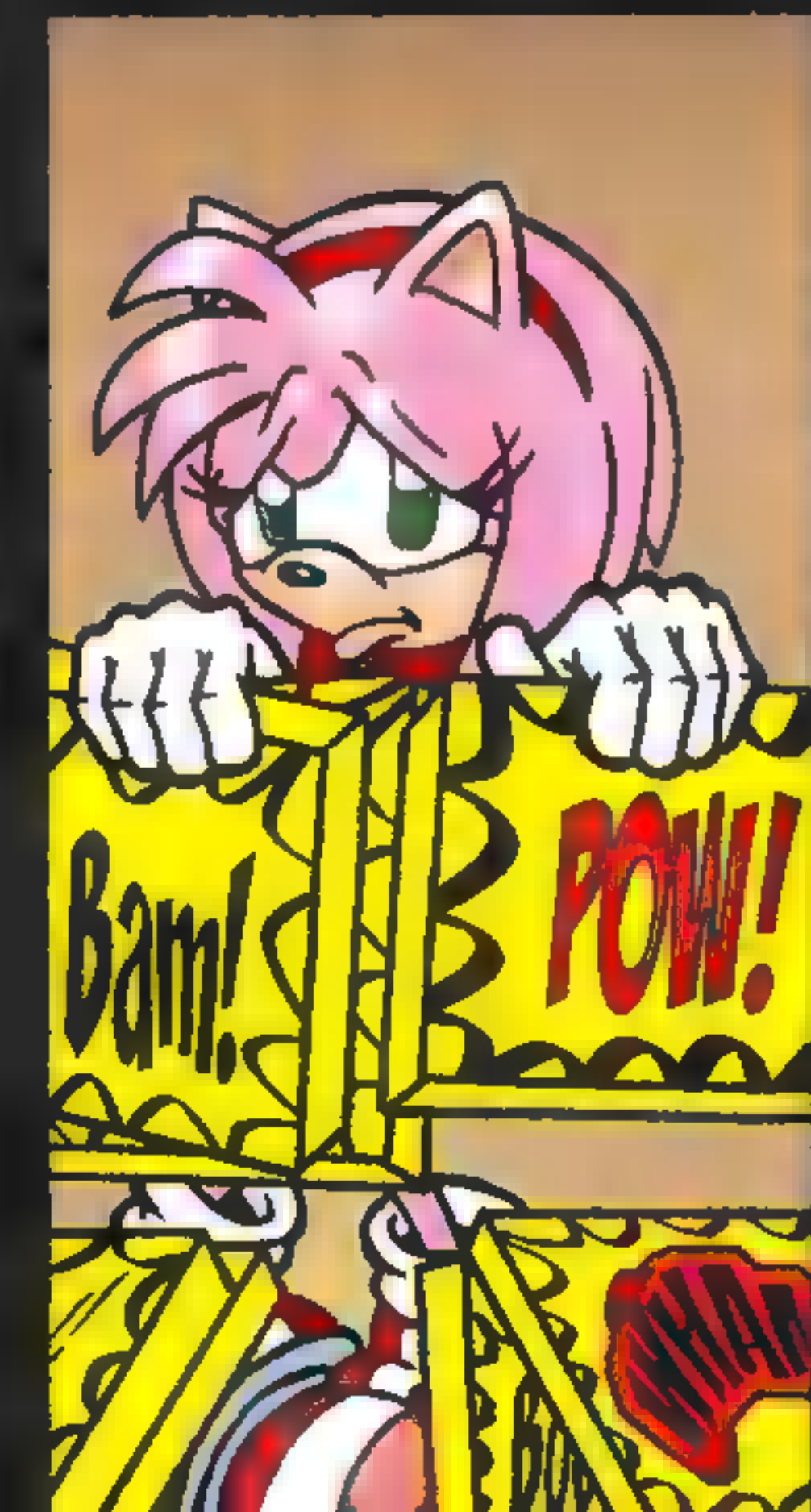
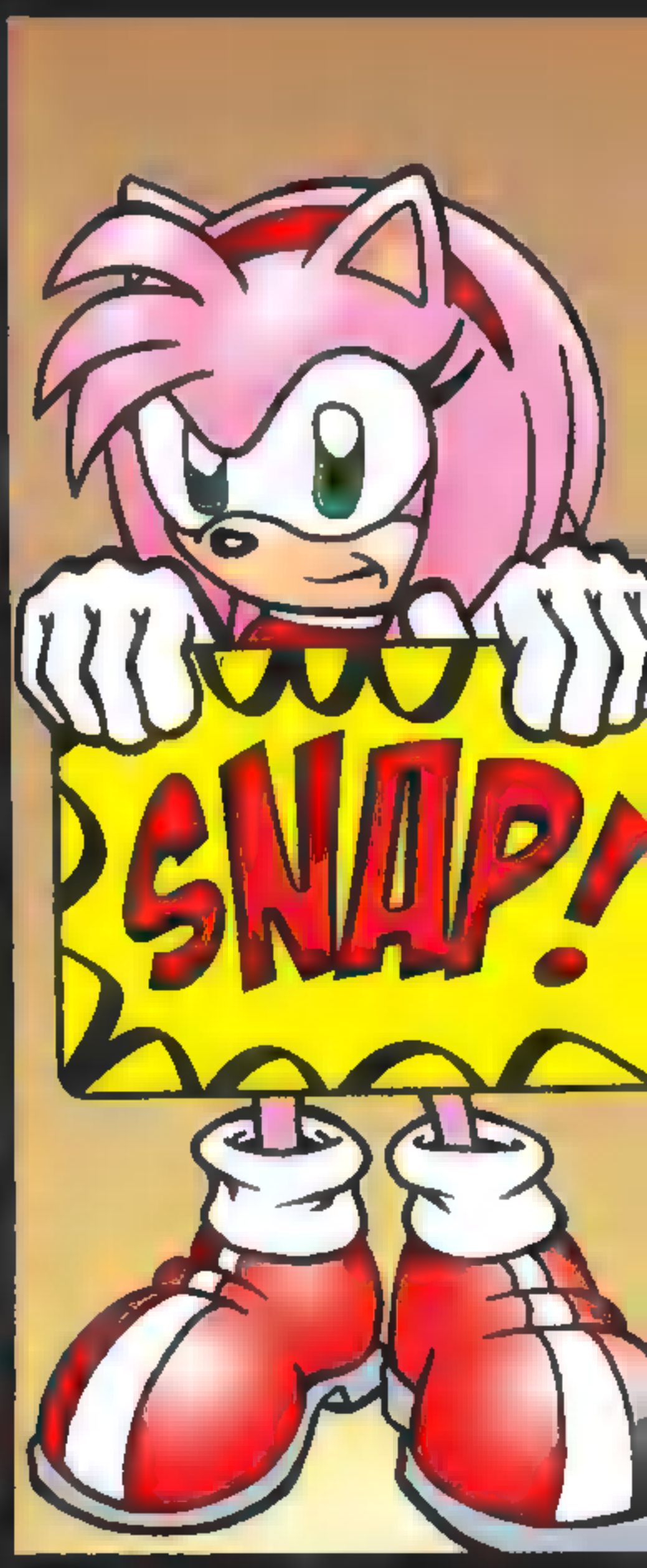
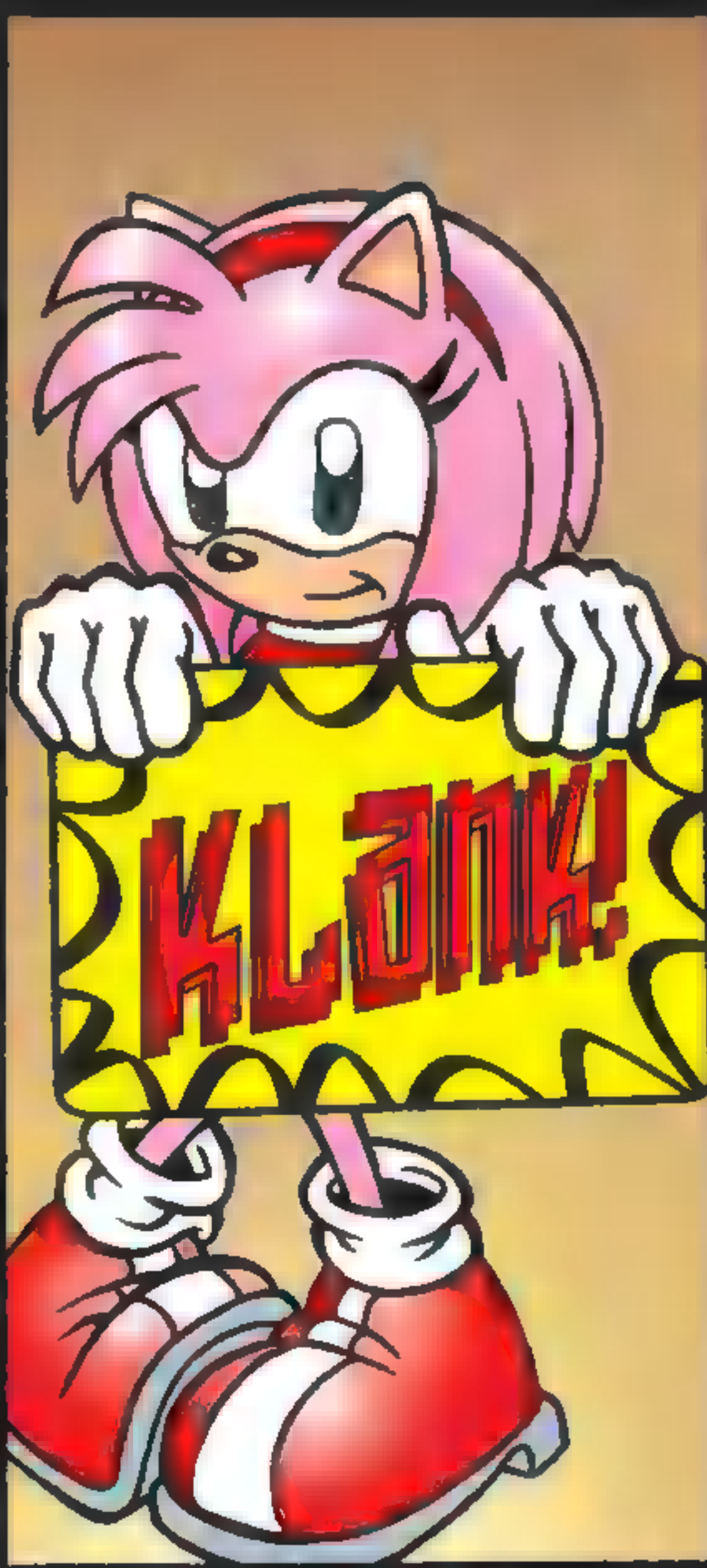
GET THEM, SNIVELY, MY EVIL SIDEKICK!

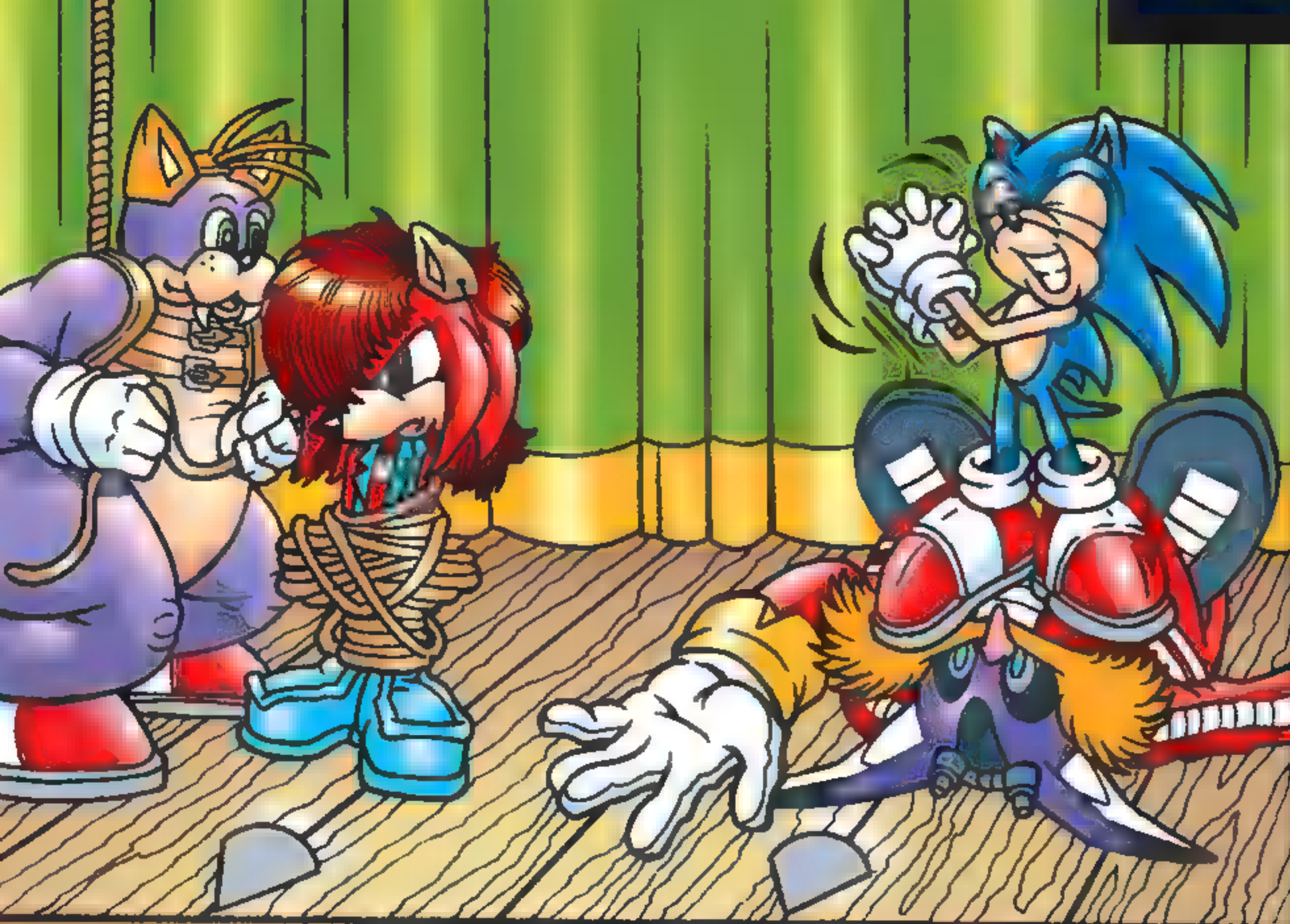


Castle Acorn...

HA HA HA! BACK TO MY LAIR WHERE WE WILL ROBOTOCIZE HER! HA HA HA!







TAILS DESTINY'S CHILD

LET'S
SEE-- SONIC GOT
HIS PARENTS
BACK!

AND
SALLY DID,
TOO.

AND MINA'S
MOM EVEN
RETURNED!

SO
HOW COME
MY PARENTS
CAN'T COME
BACK?

IT JUST
ISN'T
FAIR!

WRITER - KEN PENDERS
ARTIST - TIM SMITH 3
INKER & LETTERER -
MICHAEL HIGGINS
COLORIST - JASON JENSEN



I MEAN--
WHAT DO THE
BEMS STILL NEED
THEM FOR?

AND
HOW COME
NOBODY TALKS
ABOUT BRINGING
THEM HOME?

ISN'T
THAT MORE
IMPORTANT
THAN FIGHTING
ROBOTNIK OR
ANYTHING ELSE
WE DO AROUND
HERE?

TO
EVERYTHING
THERE IS
A SEASON,
DOUBLE
TAIL--



--AND THE
HOUR OF THE CHOSEN
ONE IS RAPIDLY DRAWING
NEAR!

DOUBLE
TAIL?

CHOSEN
ONE?

THAT
CAN ONLY
BE--

--ATHAIR!!
KNUCKLES'
GREAT-GRAND-
FATHER!

AHH! YOU
REMEMBER!

VAGUELY!

I'M
STILL NOT
SURE IF IT WAS
REAL OR A
DREAM!

JUST LIKE
NOW-- WHERE'S
THE REST OF
YOU?

THIS IS
ALL YOU
NEED--

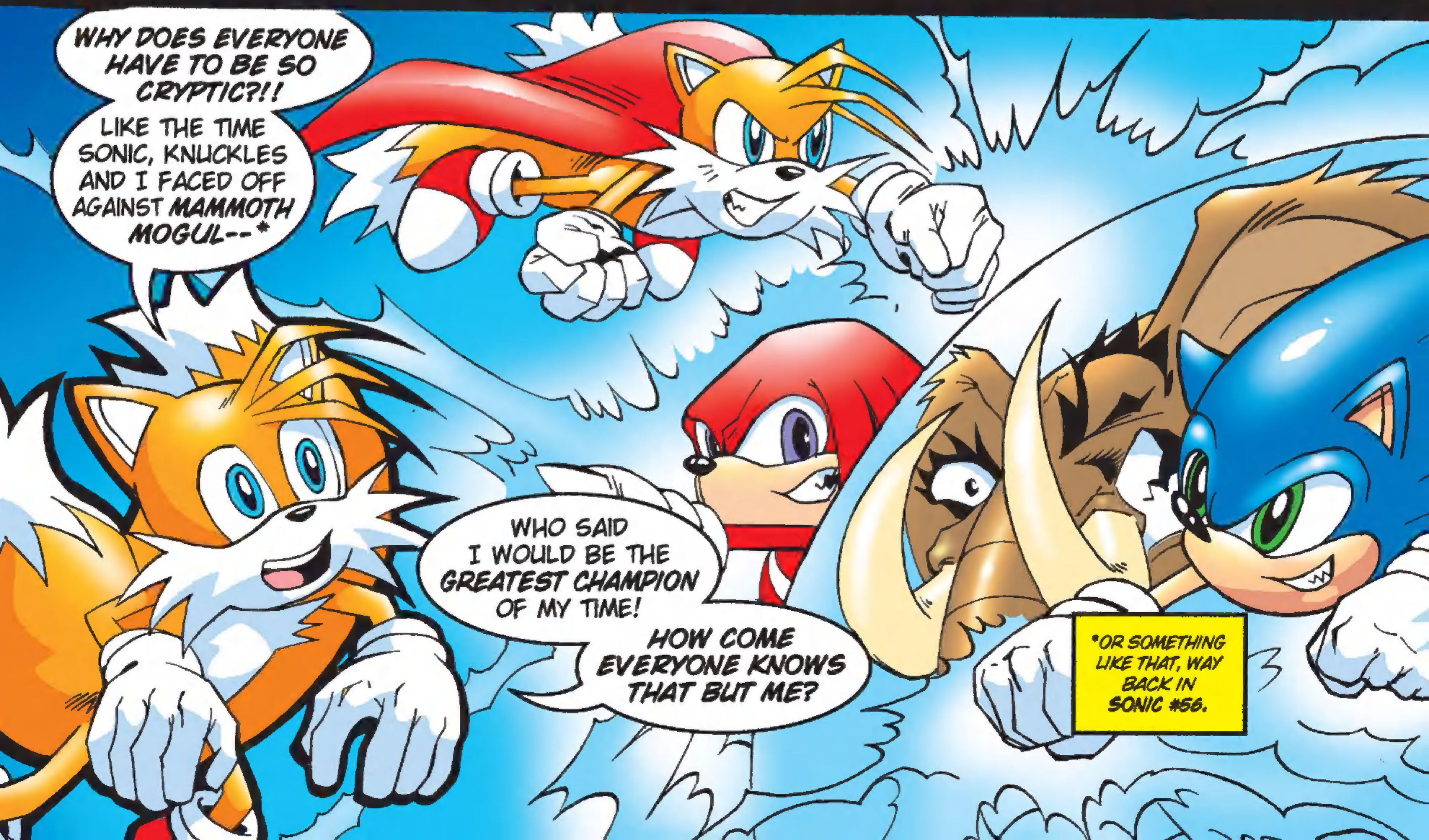
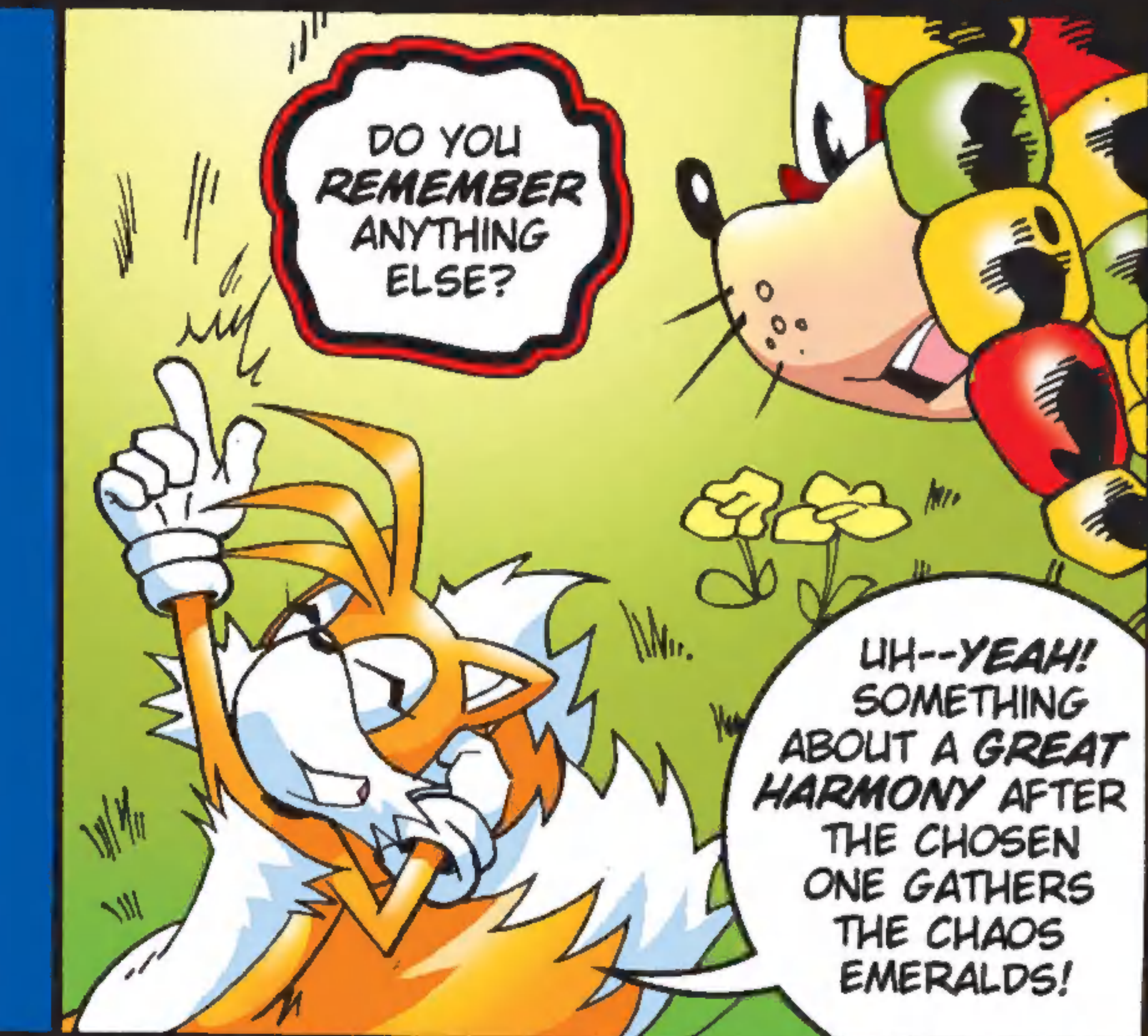
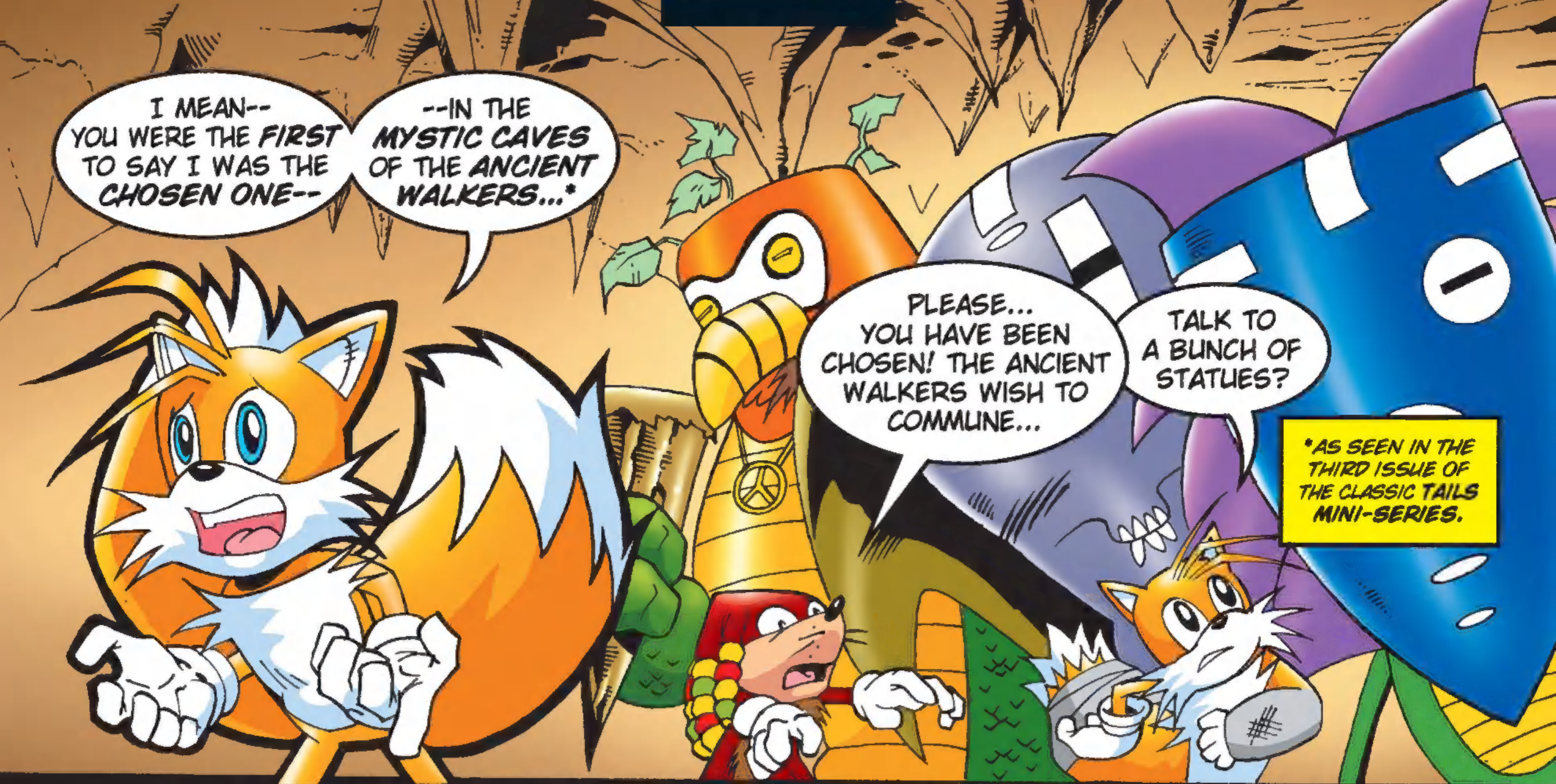
--AS I
EXIST IN A ZONE FAR
BEYOND YOUR
COMPREHENSION!

LIKE
EVERY-
THING
ELSE
THESE
DAYS!

OH, REALLY? WHAT IS
THERE YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND?

LIKE THIS
CHOSEN ONE
JAZZ!

CAN YOU
EVEN GIVE ME
ONE CLUE WHAT
THAT'S ALL
ABOUT?!

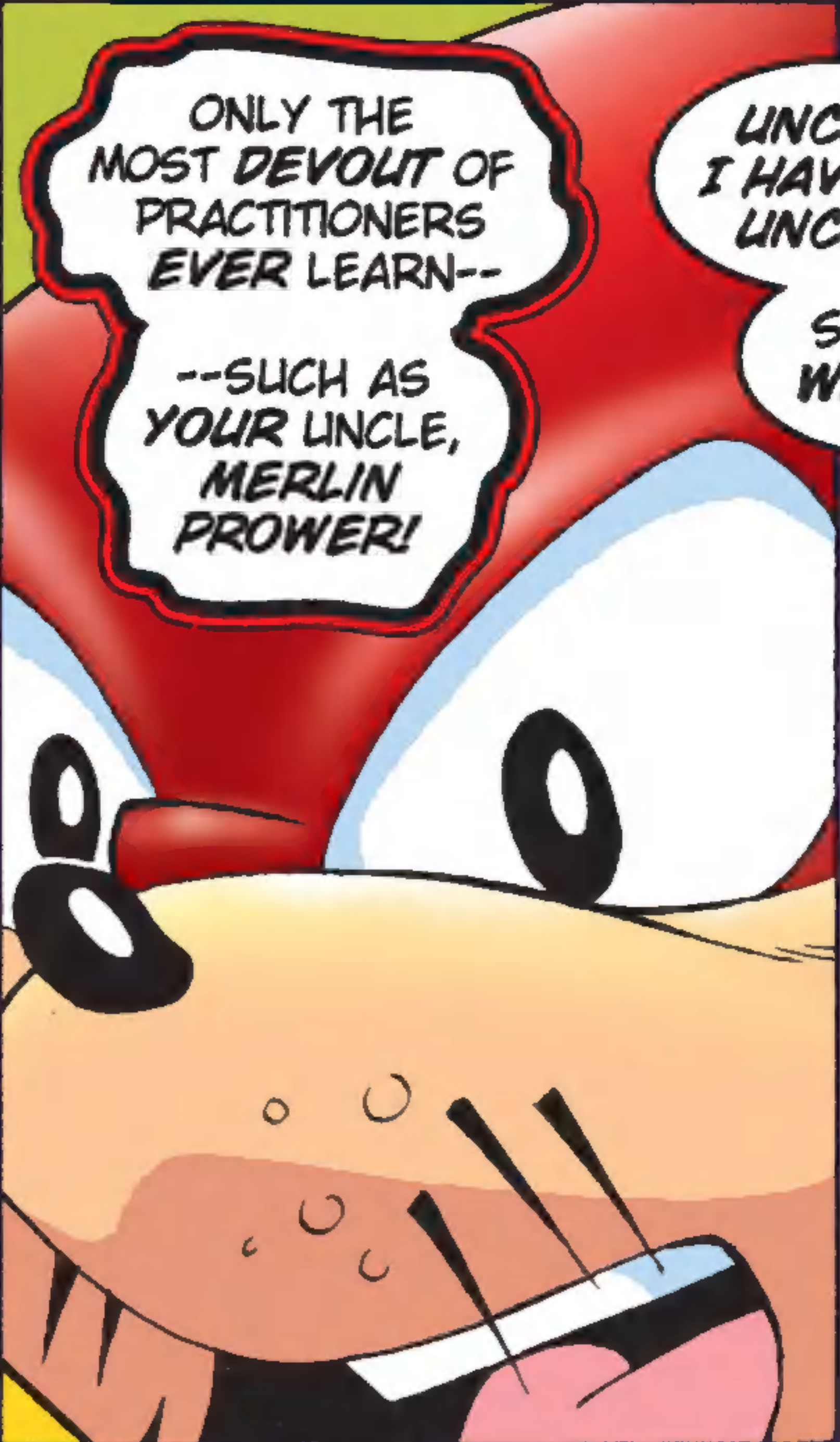




NOT EVERYONE, DOUBLE TAIL--

JUST THOSE WHO'VE READ THE ANCIENT PROPHECIES!

I MUST HAVE MISSED THOSE IN CLASS!



ONLY THE MOST DEVOUT OF PRACTITIONERS EVER LEARN--
--SUCH AS YOUR UNCLE, MERLIN PROWER!

UNCLE? I HAVE AN UNCLE?
SINCE WHEN?



SINCE THE DAY YOU WERE BORN!
HE HAS ALWAYS KNOWN OF YOUR COMING--

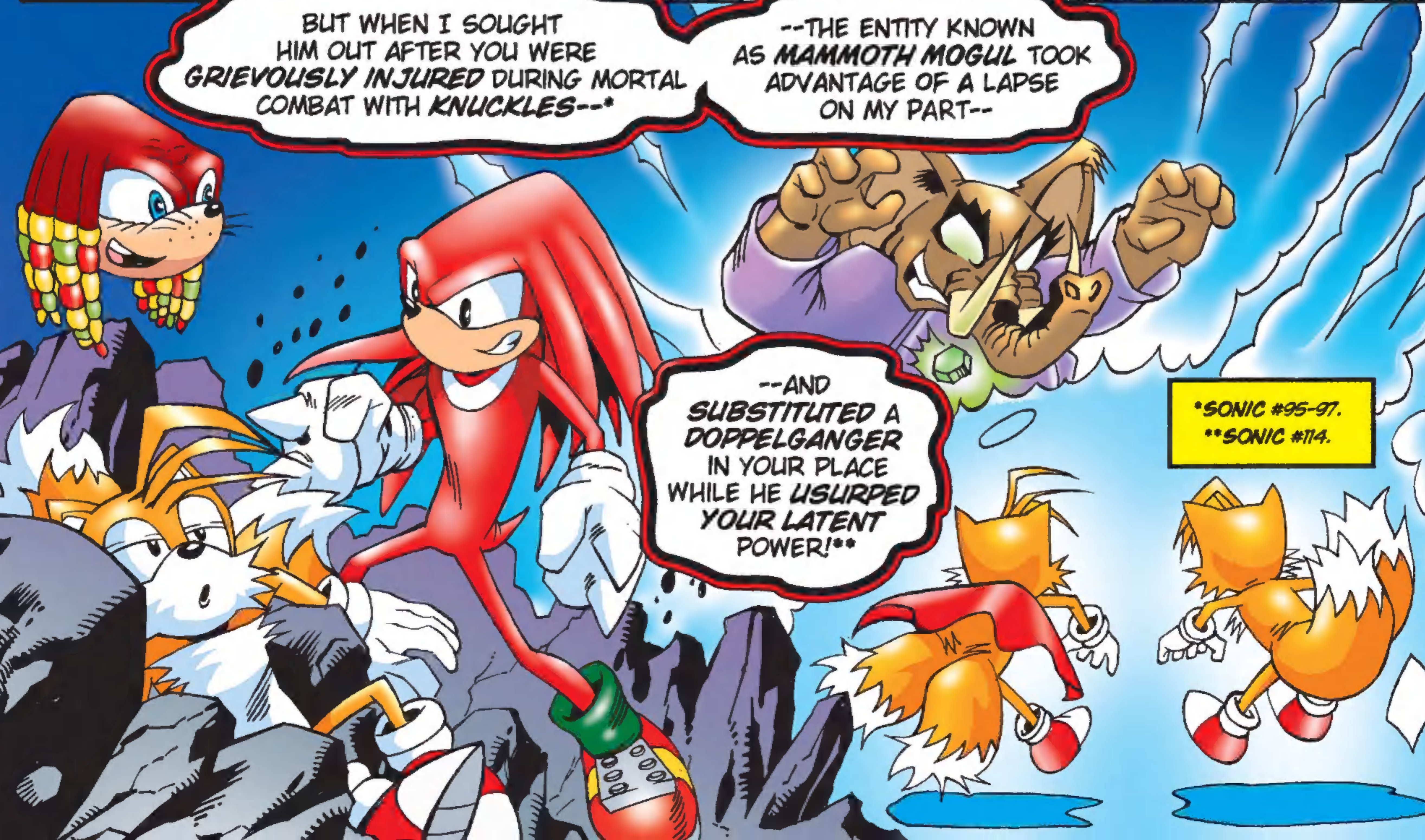


--AS WELL AS YOUR DESTINY!

MERLIN WOULD HAVE EXPLAINED ALL HAD HE BEEN GIVEN THE CHANCE--

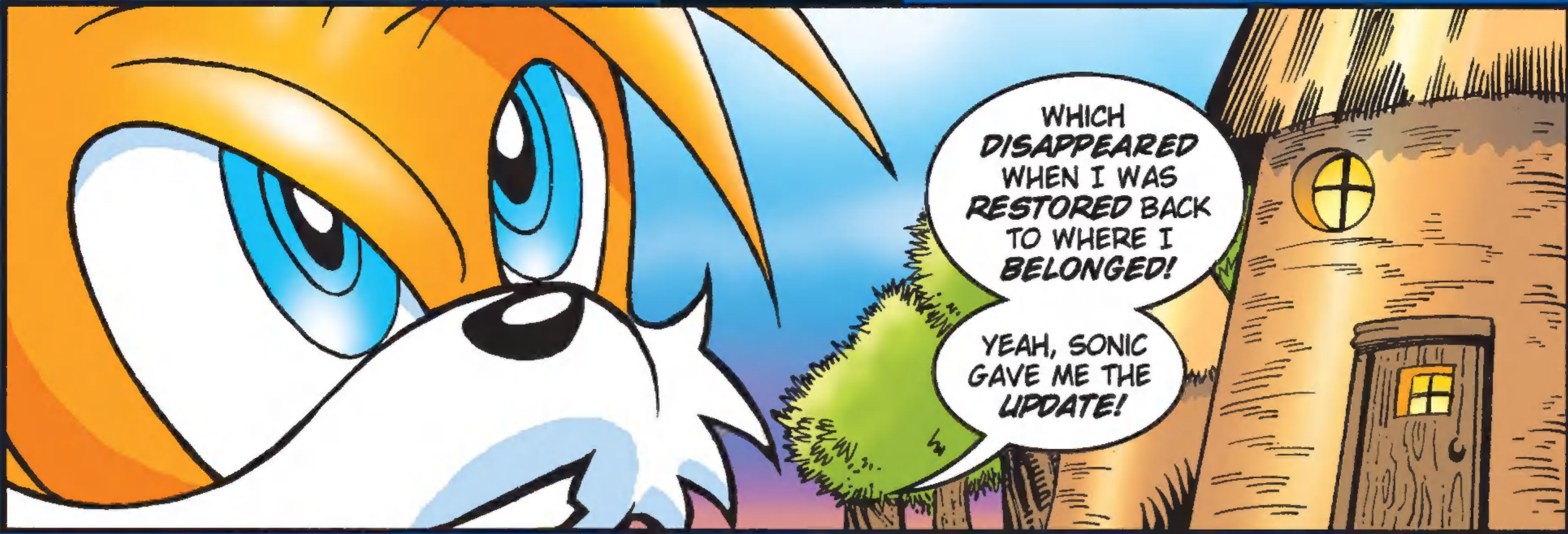
BUT WHEN I SOUGHT HIM OUT AFTER YOU WERE GRIEVOUSLY INJURED DURING MORTAL COMBAT WITH KNUCKLES--*

--THE ENTITY KNOWN AS MAMMOTH MOGUL TOOK ADVANTAGE OF A LAPSE ON MY PART--



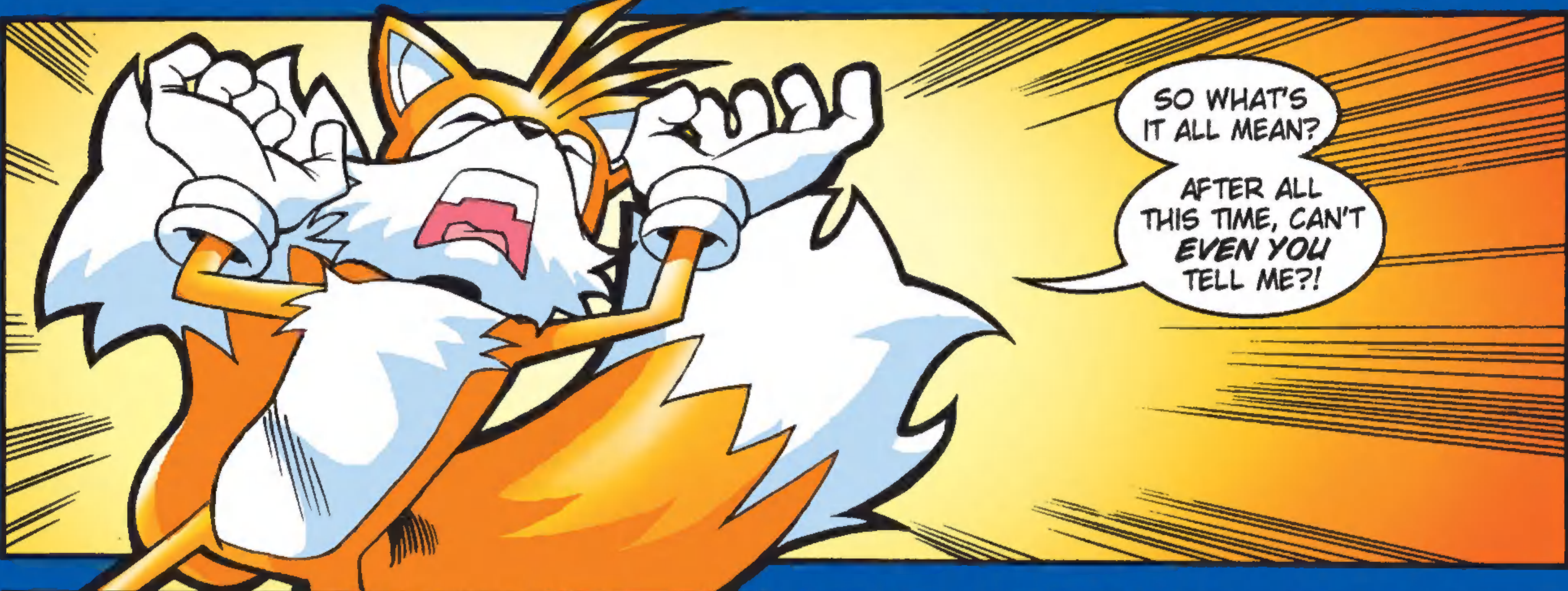
--AND SUBSTITUTED A DOPPELGANGER IN YOUR PLACE WHILE HE USURPED YOUR LATENT POWER!**

*SONIC #95-97.
**SONIC #114.



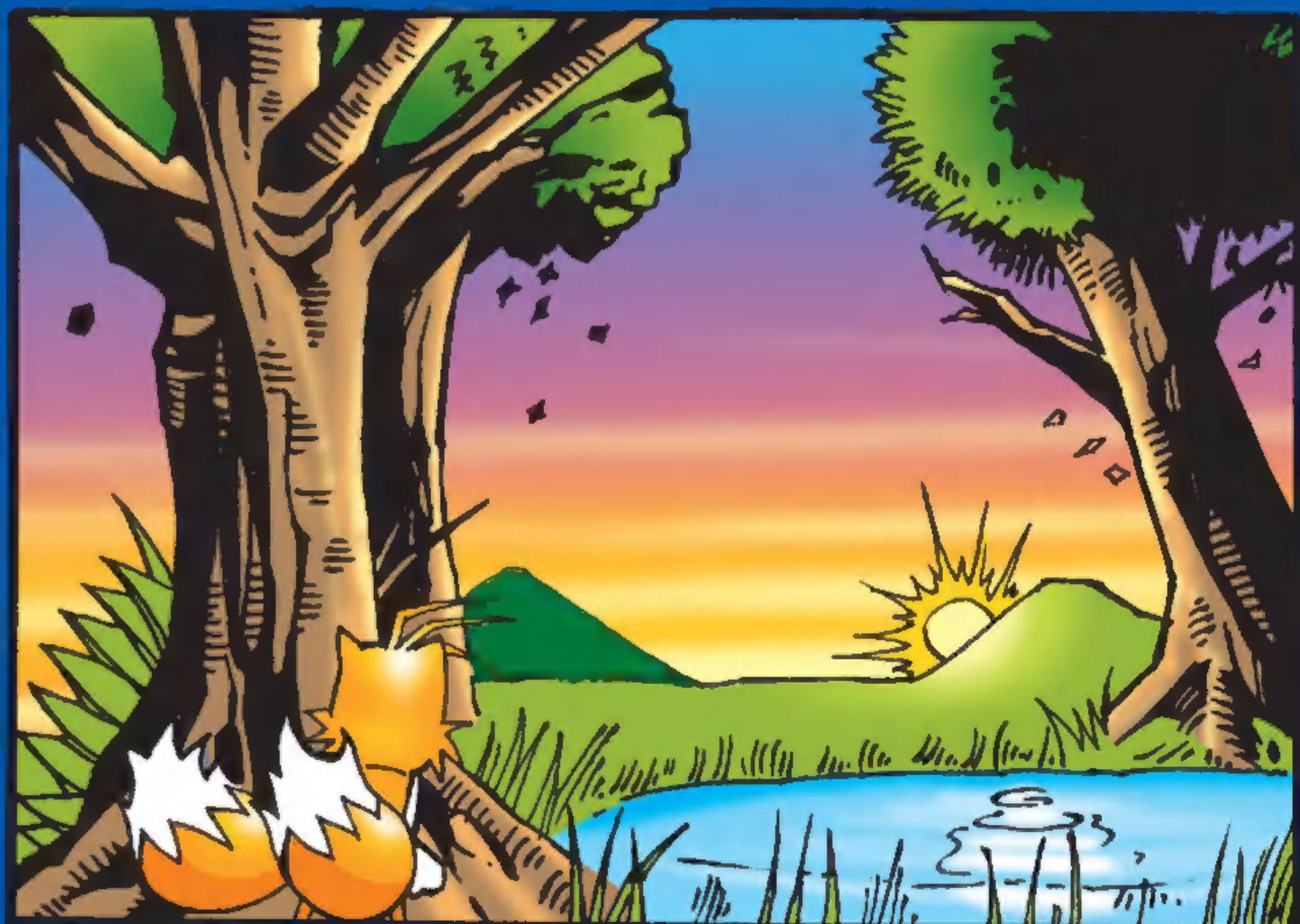
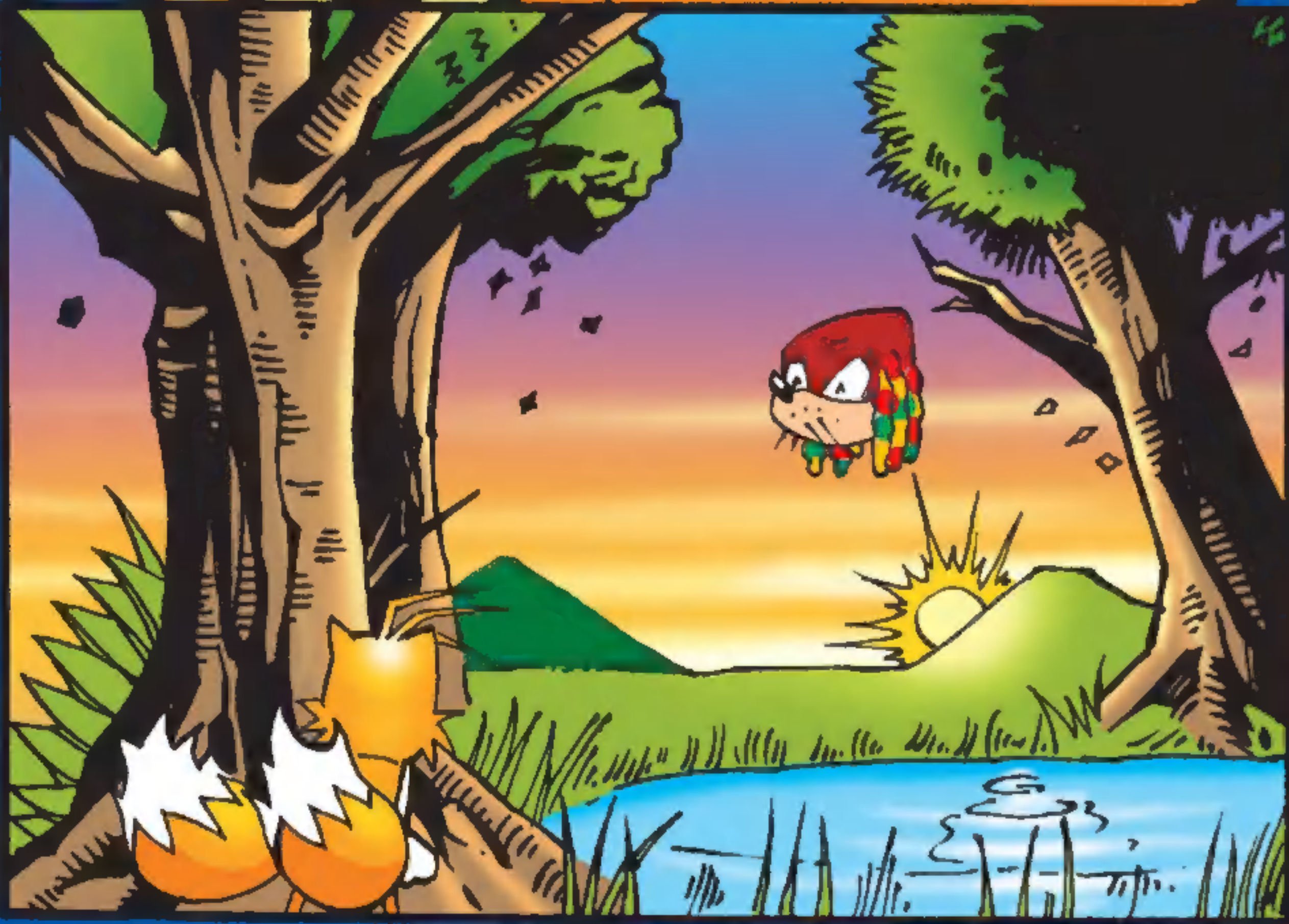
WHICH
DISAPPEARED
WHEN I WAS
RESTORED BACK
TO WHERE I
BELONGED!

YEAH, SONIC
GAVE ME THE
UPDATE!



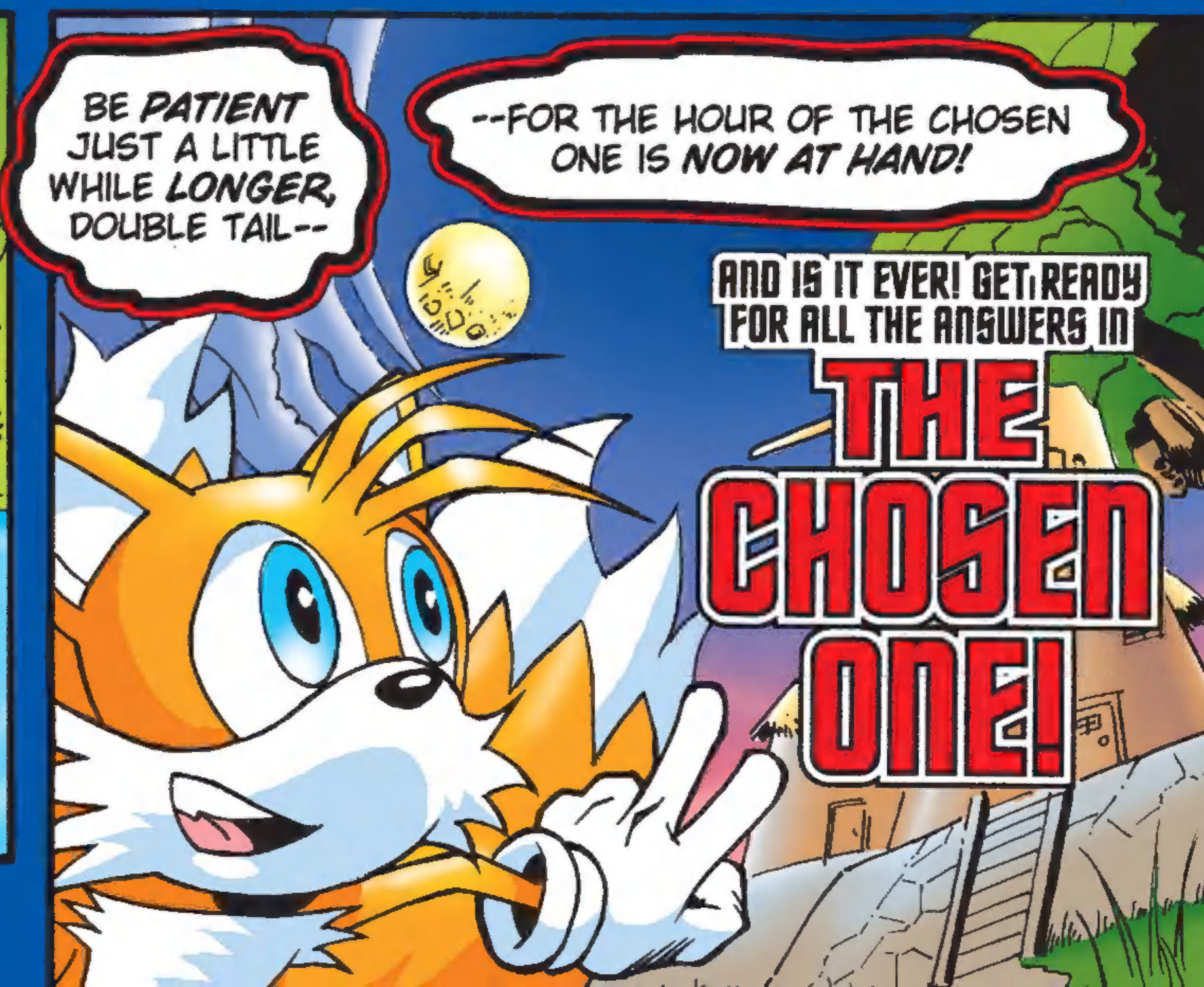
SO WHAT'S
IT ALL MEAN?

AFTER ALL
THIS TIME, CAN'T
EVEN YOU
TELL ME?!



JUST LIKE
THAT HE'S
GONE!

WHY SHOULD
HE TREAT ME ANY
DIFFERENT FROM THE
OTHERS ANYWAY?



BE PATIENT
JUST A LITTLE
WHILE LONGER,
DOUBLE TAIL--

--FOR THE HOUR OF THE CHOSEN
ONE IS NOW AT HAND!

AND IS IT EVER! GET READY
FOR ALL THE ANSWERS IN
**THE
CHOSEN
ONE!**